

Clifton Avenue Church of God

Pastoral Ponderings

Transitions, life is full of them and with the changing of seasons, some are inevitable. I cannot believe that summer is almost gone. The kids are back in school and we are looking to transition into fall activity.

We spent part of the summer talking with the leadership of the Ark program in the hopes of devising a strategy to move the Ark South to the Fellowship Hall of our Church. We are still in dialogue and have no timeline, but in

the meantime we are committed to come alongside the Ark South program to work with the kids and become more familiar with the program so as to ease a future transition. Please pray.

We also want to target community residents for some very practical teaching skills seminars on themes like: raising healthy kids, single parenting skills, debt relief, dealing with addiction, hang-ups & habits, and getting a job. I'm hoping over 6-week

time slots to have many parents see the Clifton Avenue Church of God as a caring church that is investing in the betterment of people. God is at work and I am so proud of to grow and go in Jesus' name.

Pastor Dave Cotto

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Counseling Corner

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can-and the wisdom to know the difference-AMEN!

(Read Jonah 4:1-4)

When people have hurt us deeply, it is easy to hate them and want vengeance. But holding tightly to hatred and bitterness can easily become a defect of character. The bitterness we experience threatens the recovery process because it causes us to blame others for our problems. It may scare us to think of forgiving those who have hurt us. We may be afraid that releasing out hatred will require us to condone the bad things people have done to us.

Jonah felt this way. He hated the people of Nineveh for their cruelty toward Israel. God told Jonah to go to Nineveh and warn them of the destruction planned for them. Instead, he ran away by boarding a ship going the opposite direction. God caused a life threatening storm, and Jonah ended up in a belly of a great fish. Suddenly God had Jonah's attention, and Jonah **reluctantly obeyed**. Jonah preached to the people of Nineveh, they changed their ways, and God put off his planned destruction. Jonah complained, "*Didn't I say before I left home that you would do this, LORD? That is why I ran away.... I knew how easily you could cancel your plans for destroying these people*" (Jonah 4:2).

We cannot remove our bitterness on our own. And it will never be easy to accept that God wants to rescue even the people we hate. We must allow God to change our heart as we work toward forgiving those who have hurt us. This will take time. God asks only that we be willing to let him begin the work in our heart (*Read Philipians 1:6*).

Pastor Tina



Springfield House of Prayer

616 N. Limestone
Upper Level of Marriage
Resource Ctr.

September Hours

Please contact Ben at
937-206-0124 or e-mail at
ben@vineyardnorthridge.org

Couples Get Together....

Will start back up in October!

Bring a dessert or drinks

Please RSVP @ the church: 324-5398/cacog1@aol.com



Kids Hope USA

Why be a KIDS HOPE USA Mentor? Check out these statistics...

- Every 43 seconds, a baby is born into poverty.
- Every minute a baby is born to a teen mother.
- Every 4 minutes a child is arrested for drug abuse.
- Every 8 minutes a child is arrested for a violent crime.
- Every 3 hours a child or youth under 20 is killed by a firearm.
- Every 5 hours a child or youth under 20 commits suicide.



With this kind of environment, it's no wonder that children are not having their emotional and social needs met. It's no wonder that 1 in 3 children are behind a year or more in school. It's no wonder that 2 out of every 5 children in 4th grade are behind a year or more in reading skill. Children who leave elementary school not being able to read at grade level are marked for failure.

You could change these statistics by becoming a KIDS HOPE USA Mentor. Kids Hope Mentors meet with their child 1 day a week (your choice of school days) for 1 hour. Mr. Wilson, Lincoln's Principal, has set up the lunch time for us to meet. We bring our lunch to school and eat with our child. The hour flies by!

If you have questions, see me or give me a call. (937)536-6168.

Prayers,
Laura Hufford
Kids Hope USA Director
Clifton Ave. Church of God

Clifton Ave. Programs

Pantry Outreach

Every 2nd & 3rd Saturday
 9:30am Breakfast
 10:00-11:30 Pantry

If you want to volunteer, contact
 Sis Debbie Hilliard

uniqueblessed@aol.com

(937) 324-1138

Crusaders

Wednesdays at 6pm.

Is on Summer Break...See you in
 the Fall :)

A Meal & Message

Thursdays 5:30-7:00pm

Free dinner, warm fellowship, a
 word of encouragement

Is on Summer Break...See you in
 the Fall :)

Celebrate Recovery

RC will be visiting other CR groups
 throughout the summer. If anyone is
 interested in visiting these ministries,
 please contact Pastor Tina (937-360-
 4079) for dates, places and times. Cele-
 brate Recovery at Clifton will resume
 in the Fall with a new day and time.

God Loves You and so do I
 Pastor Tina

Sunday School: 9:30am

Sunday AM Worship: 10:30am

Children's Church during preaching
 (approx. 11:30)

Sunday Evening Prayer:

5:00-6:00pm

We are on the web....

www.cliftonavechog.org

Many, O Lord my
 God, are the wonders
 you have done. The
 things you planned
 for us no one can
 recount to you; were
 I to speak and tell of
 them, they would be
 too many to declare.

Psalm 40:5

CHILDREN'S CHURCH TEACHERS

September 5th - Leigh & Linda

September 19th - Debbie H. & Martha

September 12th - TJ & Ashley

September 26th - Pastor Tina

Weeks	Tithes/Offerings	Needed	Attendance
07/25/10	\$1,524.20	\$3,000.00	52
08/01/10	\$1,118.93	\$3,000.00	45
08/08/10	\$1,841.00	\$3,000.00	N/A
08/15/10	\$1,476.40	\$3,000.00	58
08/22/10	\$1,948.00	\$3,000.00	58
Monthly Total (July)	\$7,908.53	\$12,000.00	42.6 Avg.
Prev. Month (July)	\$7,313.41	\$12,000.00	47.5 Avg.
Prev. Month (June)	\$11,112.43	\$12,000.00	64 Avg.



September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 <i>Doris Hufford Bday</i> <i>Mike Curry Bday</i>	3	4 <i>Pastors David & Tina Cotto Anniv.</i>
5	6 <i>Joe Gibson Bday</i>	7 <i>Narcotics Anonymous</i> <i>7-8:30pm</i>	8	9 <i>Jordan Pritchett Bday</i>	10 <i>Men's Ox Roast</i>	11 <i>Pantry: 930-Breakfast</i> <i>10-11:30-Pantry</i>
12	13	14 <i>Narcotics Anonymous</i> <i>7-8:30pm</i> <i>Gilbert & Doris Hufford Anniv.</i>	15	16	17	18 <i>Pantry: 930-Breakfast</i> <i>10-11:30-Pantry</i> <i>Back 2 School Supply Giveaway</i>
19	20	21 <i>Narcotics Anonymous</i> <i>7-8:30pm</i>	22	23 <i>Michelle Moore Bday</i>	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		