

*Ginter Park Baptist Church Richmond, Virginia*

XC

September 13, 2007

NO. 83

**THE TIE**  
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**The Pastor's COLUMN**

British society is increasingly secular. There are several factors in the secularization process.

In England, everyone is born into the Church of England. If you are a non-conformist, for instance, a Baptist, you must "opt out." Because there is little voluntary component to church membership, at least some of the Anglican clergy feel that the only choices most people make are whether to be active or inactive. The pluralization of British society is very evident. The British empire spread around the world and many of those who learned the English language and culture felt more at home in Great Britain than in their country of origin. On every street, there is a cacophony of languages and a multiplicity of cultures. For some, the closeness of varied cultures has led to a strong identity with the values of their culture of origin. For many others, there is an attitude of "go along to get along." Sometimes in small ways, sometimes in larger compromises, the distinctive marks of one's culture have been eaten away by a generic "lowest common denominator" culture that assimilates into the larger whole. Those who have assimilated have often left all faith behind as a remnant of the old culture.

The churches of Great Britain have responded in several ways. Some churches have become (either figuratively or literally) museums. Some have sought to justify their existence through picking up social projects that have little "soul" component. Still others have entered into the "new age" without much critical examination of their place.

The most exciting churches are those who have celebrated the work of God even in the process of secularization. These revel in their position of being "salt and light" rather than carrying the weight of a majority culture. They are "light on their feet." They have a sense of freedom and celebration about them that encourages innovation. They think "outside the box" and "beyond the box." Although there are several creative programs and approaches being used in these churches, the programs are the latest expression of a creative process rather than the end product.

For the most part, the churches we saw had very little that we would consider new; many of their ideas came from here, the USA. What was different was the looseness with which the programs were held. The creative churches were not looking for a "solution" in the latest program. They were using programs as a response, not as an end in themselves.

**VAN DRIVERS ARE NEEDED!** Can you help out? Call Bob Linge @ 264-1051 or cell 389-1695.

**CARE AND CONCERN**

**Bereavement**

Family of Carl Barefoot, Jr.

**Hospital**

Flemming McMullin in Johnston Willis - room 546

Tennie Kelly (Dixie's Mom) in North Carolina

**Prayers**

Dot Houchens, David Lyons, Lauren Bell (Zoe Harper's granddaughter), Elmer Thompson (Ethel Metzger's brother-in-law), Angie and Joe Wheeler (friends of Vickie Hall), Alma Irby, Louise Fingerson, Karen Doumlele (Melba George's cousin), Judy Dotson (Asa Hall's/Dean Tennant's teacher at Newbury Center), Christine Mattingly (Nancy Bradley's sister), Sue Eilertson (friend of Ann Watlington), Don Kelly (Dixie Leather's brother) Ms. Scott (teacher at Holton), George Ritchie, Billy Faye Smith, Kate Jacobs (friend of Ann Charlescraft)

**Friends to Remember**

George Adams, Jimmy Cowardin, Bill Guenther, Lewellyn Martin, Jack McCullough, Catherine Rock, Mary Taylor, Lelia Watlington, Emmanuel Christian Community, Sri Lanka Baptist Convention

**In the Armed Forces in Iraq**

Robert Justin Hawthorne, grandson of Ava Adams  
 Jonathan Nelms (son) & James Epperson (nephew) of Margaret Wilkins  
 Jordan Jones, nephew of Nancy and Dick Williams

**OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday: 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.**  
**Tuesday: 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.**  
**Wednesday: 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.**  
**Thursday: 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.**  
**Friday: Office Closed**

**VIRGINIA BAPTISTS**

We, Virginia Baptists, have a lot of mission activities going on in our state. Copies of "Virginia Missions" are available. It is worth reading! You will see what you are supporting! The offering will be received on Sunday, September 23rd.



**FROM THE FARLEY HOUSE**

We are fortunate to have an outstanding group of students living in the Farley House Residence. Recently **Gregory Harrell** was selected as "Student Government Association Moderator for 2007-2008; **Kristin Long** received the "John Graves Scales Preaching Award"; **Pam Hendricks** will be doing her Mission Emersion Experience (MIE) in South Africa December 13th through 23rd; and **Tiffany Hall** is working at Church Hill in their "After School Program". Aren't we proud of our GPBC students! Watch for this column in the TIE for more "insight" into the lives of The Farley House Students!

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Receipts 9/9/07: \$10,359.12

#### Month of August:

Receipts to General Fund: \$14,975  
Expenditures from General Fund: 22,512

#### Year-to-Date:

Receipts to General Fund: \$162,133  
Expenditures from General Fund: 194,857  
**Deficit for year to date: 32,724**

### A WORD OF THANKS

These words cannot fully express my appreciation for you, Ginter Park BC family. Thank you for your graciousness, truth-telling, and generosity in my final month as Minister at GPBC. You were honest in telling me that my departure brought sadness and disappointment, all the while wishing me well on the journey. Thank you. The appreciation luncheon was one of the best events I have attended at GPBC. The room was decorated so perfectly. The food, the gifts, and the words of thanks were an amazing gift that I will keep with me. As I serve communion, I will think of you and the times we shared in communion. Thank you for your spirit, your devotion, and your love. Peace be with you. ~Suzanne Stovall Vinson

### DEAR CHURCH FAMILY:

I am happy to be back in college full-time at VCU. Through the support of my wife Tracy, reminders from our six year old, Noah, that I need to do my homework and the emotional support of many others, I look forward to a successful Fall and Spring semesters...and graduation in May. Additionally, without the Farley Education Loan program from the church, none of this would be possible. I want to thank my family and my church family that is prayerfully and financially supporting me in this new re-adventure of life known as college. With the forethought and vision of church members from the past and a commitment from present day members, I am able to finish college. This is ministry in action and a real blessing to me and my family. I have much to be thankful for and wanted to thank those that have helped make it possible.

Thank you,  
Blessings, Raymond Cady

### FROM THE MISSIONS COUNCIL

On August 12, Rev. Lynn Litchfield, chaplain at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women spoke to our combined Sunday School Class about the challenges of working in a prison ministry. **The Mission Council** is asking the church members to collect items for kits to be distributed to the inmates. A list of items needed was given in the August 30 TIE. Please adhere to the size limitations. They cannot accept oversize items due to security concerns nor can they accept articles in glass containers.

The state does not pay the salaries for the chaplains who work in the prison system. They are paid by the Virginia Chaplaincy Service and they can always use donations. Their address: 2317 Westwood Ave. Richmond, VA 23230.

Please bring your donations to the box next to the parlor. Donations will be delivered in October. I know everyone who heard Rev. Litchfield speak will want to help meet this great need in our community. If you have any questions, please call Kelly Schmitt at 355-4547.

### CHURCH SCHEDULE

#### SEPTEMBER 13– SEPTEMBER 27

**Sept. 12-15:** Alliance Of Baptists Board

**Sept. 16 - 23:** *Week of Prayer for Alma Hunt State Missions*

**Sept. 16:** Worship Council; 11:45 a.m. (after worship)\*

**Sept. 18:** VCU Pastoral Care Training; 6-8:30 p.m.

**Sept. 19:** Good Grief Conference @ VCU  
Staff Study Panel Discussion; 6:45 p.m.

**Sept. 20:** Bible Study; 10:00 a.m.  
Articles due for TIE  
Executive Council Meeting; 7:00 p.m.

**Sept. 21:** Articles for TIE due

**Sept. 22:** Church Work Day; 9:00 a.m.

**Sept. 23:** *Emphasis & Ingathering of Alma Hunt State Mission Offering*

**Sept. 25:** Community Grief Support Group; 6-8:30 p.m.

**Sept. 26:** Business Meeting; 6:45 p.m.

**Sept. 27:** TIE mailed

#### \*WORSHIP COUNCIL MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE:

It is important for as many members as can to attend since we will be planning the fall and holiday services!



**THE STAFF STUDY REPORT** is ready and available at church. Pick up a copy! September 19th the Wednesday Night Program will be a panel discussion hosted by the Ad

Hock Study Committee. Come, share your thoughts and ideas regarding the future of Ginter Park Baptist Church. These are exciting times!!!

### THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

*Come join us on Thursday mornings  
Lee will lead us in the study of the  
Minor (Shorter) Prophets  
Beginning with the book of Hosea  
First Session: September 20th  
10:00 - noon*

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMS

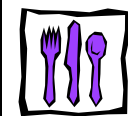
#### SEPTEMBER

Sept 19th: Study Committee Panel Discussion

Sept 26th: Business Meeting

### CANNED GOODS FOR THE BAPTIST CENTERS

Bring Food for Baptist Centers! Oatmeal, canned meat, tuna, salmon, fruit, vegetables, peanut butter, jelly..... ALL items are welcome! Thank you!



### MENU FOR FAMILY NIGHT SEPTEMBER 19

Baked Chicken  
Scalloped Potatoes/Green Beans  
Cobbler

### WE ARE COLLECTING CAMPBELL LABELS!

Campbell Soup labels and other Campbell product labels. A list of the products is posted on the bulletin board by the parlor. You will also find a bag in which to put the labels. BUT, please note: **When removing the labels from the cans DO NOT disturb the bar code.** Thank you!

### PEGGY KEEFE'S NEW ADDRESS:

919 West 28th Street  
Lawrence, Kansas (KS) 66046  
Phone #: 785-842-5770