

# Wednesday Musings July 19, 2018

Today is the final day of this year's Summer Symposium. Rabbi Rachel Brown has been with us the past two evenings sharing a wealth of knowledge about Judaism. Tonight she will cover the Jewish holidays and festivals, dietary laws, as well as worship services and prayers. The session begins at 6:30. Many thanks to the Board of Christian Education for sponsoring this yearly event, but special thanks must go to Benjie Terrell who did a lion's share of the legwork putting this year's program together.

Matt Rice and Dotti Davis return from their mission trip to Uganda today. Matt texted from the airport in Kampala last night that they would be leaving around 11:30 local time. They traveled through Amsterdam, linked with connecting flights here in the US before finally returning home. And Matt is planning to be at choir practice tonight! Hope he can stay awake!! Many blessing upon them both and we'll be very excited to hear their stories in the near future.

Today is Joan Paschal's birthday, so if you get a chance, you might send her a quick email's greeting. Also, on Sunday Nancey Simmons mentioned an outreach opportunity for us that involves support for foster children here in Alamance County. In 2017, 11,000 children were taken in custody in North Carolina because of problematic family situations, and that number is expected to increase as the opioid addiction crisis sweeps the nation. As with most foster kids, the only "suitcase" they own is often a plastic trash bag that holds their belongings. The Alamance Foster Parent Association is trying to change that. They are collecting duffel bags and personal items to fill them in response this need. A hamper as been placed in the Bray Fellowship Hall next to the mission work table against the side wall. Collected items can be placed there. In addition to duffels, items that are being sought include: Socks in various sizes for both genders, underwear, again in various sizes for both genders, hair brushes and combs, hair accessories, travel size lotions, shaving cream, and razors for both male and female teens. Additional items include pocket tissues or wet wipes, sanitary napkins or tampons, and deodorant sticks. All item can be placed in the hamper in Bray Hall. Next time you're out shopping, think of the foster children you might help, then pick up a few items from this list. And if you have any gently used duffel bags, bring those in as well. For further information please call Rebecca Morton at 336-565-9251.

Tomorrow is the deadline for the newsletter. If you have any articles for the August issue, please get them into the church office soon.

On the prayer concern list, we celebrate the birth of Teagan Elizabeth Moss Saturday morning to Sherrie Linton's daughter, Morgan. This is Sherrie's first grandchild as well as the first great-grandchild for Betty and Roger King. In addition to ongoing prayers for Anna Gerow, Donna Freeman, Louise Walters, Parker King, Nancy Thomas and Lee Whitfield, both Joan Paschal and Connie Collins' mothers are going through difficult times and welcome prayers. Also, I mentioned a few weeks ago that Connie's husband, Tim, injured his shoulder in a car accident. It appears that he has a similar injury to my shoulder and require surgery in the near future.

Hope to see you tonight, and if not then, on Sunday.

Mark