

CAPITAL CONNECTIONS

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*“So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.”
(Gal. 6:9 NRSV)*

Thank you, CBC Associate Pastor Search Committee, for not giving up! You began working in January 2017. No one thought that work would continue until August 19, 2018. You’ve been disappointed, frustrated and tired, but you remained prayerful and faithful. Now we’re rejoicing together in God’s answer to our prayers and your hard work. Praise the Lord!

Thomas and McKenzie McCarty have accepted Capital’s call to join the work as Associate Pastor and Wife. As I write, they are returning to Dallas, TX, to begin the arduous task of relocating to Oregon. They’re “excited” and so are we.



New things are on the horizon for them, and for us; moving from one season of “busy”-ness and hard work to another. The same strategy of prayerfulness and faithfulness is required during the transition. So, let’s renew our hope and our prayers as we walk forward together, “linking arms” in mutual service to the Kingdom.

Linda Warberg has done a fantastic job facilitating the work of the APSC. Thank you, Linda, for helping us. We’re all grateful to you. Your patience and persistence have bolstered us during the experience. When you write your memoir, I look forward to reading that chapter.

And to everyone else on the APSC, to Jeff Feth, Bryan Haws, Melissa Hiltz, Harvey Johnson, Elaine Lipton, Sara Ricketts, Jo Stell and Melody Tavares, your brothers and sisters in Christ owe you a deep debt of gratitude. Our prayer is that you will look back upon your nineteen and a half months of service with deep satisfaction. May you give thanks to God for what he did because you made the commitment; you remained faithful.

Speaking of commitment and faithfulness, we’ve just made the turn and we’re in the home stretch of summer ministry. It’s been fantastically full.

Remember Capital Bible Camp? It was awesome! It was “Game On” for the kids and their leaders. To Sara and Melissa and the dozen others who made it a great week, Thank you! We had an enrollment of 53 children. We’re still following up on decisions made during that week

You can read Virginia Barker’s Newsletter item about Youth Camp. It was my first visit to Fir Point Bible Conference. Cindy Schenewerk did a fantastic job facilitating the experience for more than 100 youth. There were nine of us from Capital Baptist Church. We were blessed.

And, another huge “thank you” to everyone who contributed, organized, prayed, cooked, served and cleaned up during The Big Give. It was a great day. We expressed our love for this community in the

name of Jesus Christ. We were joined by our brothers and sisters from Comunidad Cristiana Renuevo. This kind of evangelism is one of the best ways forward for CBC as we share ministry and a verbal witness to our faith in Jesus Christ.

There remains only one more summertime ministry. We're collecting Backpack and School Supplies for distribution at Washington Elementary School. We'll help our friends at Washington Elementary School, providing supplies and distributing them on September 4, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Let's pray for the team from CBC. They're our Ambassadors, serving the community in the name of Jesus Christ.

Prayerfully yours, Pastor John

What a great summer we had exploring different studies with Adult 1 and 2



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classes. Thank you to summer teachers Wendy Feth, Jeff Stell and Rob Tavares. How did it go? Not sure yet, but we will find out when the Adult/Youth Sunday School teachers meet later in September. The classes will revert to *Explore the Bible* materials for the fall quarter, which begins next Sunday.

The Youth have been studying *Feed the Dog!* A special thank you to Pastor John and Anna Stell for their summer work on Thursday nights as they continued the same study. How did it go? We'll know once we talk with the youth and decide on material to use this fall.

Stay tuned for a date!

Sunday School Teachers watch the bulletin, email and/or texts for September meeting dates, then please be sure to mark your calendar with that date. September meetings will be scheduled for Children/Preschool, Kid's Ministry Team, VBS debrief and Adult/Youth teachers. We will wait for Thomas and McKenzie to get here so they can be part of our planning.

And speaking of the McCarty's....

If you missed it, Sunday, August 19 was a WONDERFUL worship experience, with a sense of unity and celebration that was palpable. Ten years of devotion to Capital's VBS ministry by Melissa Hiltz and Sara Ricketts was recognized, and the election of new Deacon, Randy Tucker, announced. The hard work involved in the Big Give had resulted in serving 101 households in our community... AND the Associate Pastor Search Committee was in a party mood after more than a year and a half of hard work, long hours, disappointments and frustration. As they remained faithful to the task assigned to them and prayerfully watched for God to reveal His will, this day had sometimes seemed a long way off. At last, here it was!

During the business session at the end of the service, 69 affirmative ballots were collected, unanimously calling Thomas McCarty as our new Associate Pastor of Young Adults and Young Families. Notified of the vote results, they enthusiastically accepted.

Did you get a chance to talk to them during their week at Capital? They are both friendly, open, and easy to talk to. The consensus among Capital folks was obviously that they will be a good fit.

The McCarty's are both eager (translated "excited" ;)) to begin. It appears they have an apartment, and if all goes as planned, they will be back in Salem in just 2 weeks (around September 10).

Greetings from the Island of Barbados

What a wonderful week; each day began at 7:30 am around the flag pole. *God Has Chosen You!* was the Camp theme with Bible Study from Colossians. Each Bible Study group represented an island. The various islands were Bahamas, Barbados, Cayman Island, Cebu, Isle of Man, New Zealand, and West Dog. Yes, these really do exist.

I had the privilege of being in Pastor John's Bible Study Group. He is beyond awesome. Monday's topic was gratitude and our relationship with Christ. Gratitude always takes your eyes off yourself and puts in on something/someone else. What is the connection between faith, hope, and love? In Colossians 1:5, we learn:

- Love = God's love came first
- Faith = choosing to believe in something you cannot see
- Hope = knowing and trusting what the Bible says

Monday evening's message by Isaac Hoard, Camp Pastor, centered on who God and His Son are. Jesus is an exact copy of the Father and Jesus is over everything. He wants nothing but success for us. We are reconciled to God through Christ. We are supposed to follow in Christ's footsteps (Romans 5:10).

Tuesday: Bible Study focused on our need for a Savior and things that move us away from Christ. We are bombarded with so much "stuff" every day that it's easy to lose our focus. Our daily prayer should be: *"Please give me eyes to see You and Your work in my life. Give me ears to hear You and Your voice."* The evening message addressed conflict. There are both physical and spiritual battles in our lives, Satan is always trying to lure us away, and the world has turned the unacceptable into the acceptable. Colossians 2:6 offers us encouragement and faith sets us up for success.

Wednesday: Our old sinful nature can be turned into a new nature through Christ. We live in this new nature through prayer, Bible Study, fellowship with other believers and service in Jesus' name. Compare your life to that of 2 dogs (or your old nature and your new nature): the one you feed is the strongest. That evening Isaac talked about our character and how faith in Christ makes us holy and set apart, and that we need to treat others with God's character, showing kindness even to those who annoy us.

Thursday: When we accept Christ, not only does our position change but also our functions and benefits. In short, we go from: 1) an enemy of Christ to a worshipper; 2) spiritual poverty to spiritual health; 3) sinners to saints (set apart); 4) separated to reconciled; 5) death to life; 6) broken to complete. That evening we had an amazing worship experience that began with a skit set to *Fear, He is a Liar*, and Isaac's message dealt with family, honoring authority and service to God.

Friday's Bible Study was a recap of all we had learned through the week, and we talked about the importance of prayer and developing the practice of prayer.

Lest you think we didn't have any fun, I assure you there was plenty! Monday evening after chapel time, we went to several different stations. I was in charge of one station, so didn't get to see the others, but in mine each person wrote their name backwards, which became their tribal name. They then shared what their name was, what it meant or something about their tribe; they were encouraged to make something up if necessary. It was a lot of fun listening to what they came up with. Many of them couldn't pronounce their new tribal name; it was fun helping them figure out the pronunciation. Write your name backwards and see what you come up with.

On Tuesday evening, regular Bible Study groups did a team building exercise to emphasize how important every part of the body is. Stay tuned as you might see a form of this in the future at Capital!!!!

Wednesday's annual Talent Show was very good; there is amazing talent within among the youth these days. Thursday evening was the Girls vs Boys competition—always a good time, always VERY noisy! The culmination of camp on Friday morning was the Bible Study groups' presentation of their island flag, national anthem, mascot, pledge of allegiance, and banner. During the week, each group had constructed a shelter out of cardboard and materials scrounged around the grounds. Ours was awesome (of course!) partly because we had a young man with construction experience who knew how to put things together! The talent and creativity displayed by these young people never ceases to amaze me.

And as in the past, we went into Glendale to pick up trash along the main street and in a city park. Our youth did an amazing job, as always (no prejudice here of course!!!) without grumbling or complaining. It was a very hot, but we were done in record time with no less quality work. People always stop to inquire what we're doing. Keep in mind Glendale's population is 887 (2016 census), so when over 100 young people descend on them, it is noticed. The City staff appreciates the work accomplished in that short period of time.

Well, that about does it for this edition of *Musings by Mama V* (Virginia Barker). Stay tuned for next year's rendition



This month I'm going to tell the story about how Earl and I came to be a "couple," and how our marriage began. My hope is that YOU will tell your stories for future issues. How did you and your husband or wife meet and how did that meeting extend to marriage? Send me your stories, and we can all learn more about you. Or just send me the time and the place you met and how the marriage came about. You can include a photo.

Our story: I would like to say that I attended California Baptist College (now University) after praying for the Lord's leadership in my life. Sadly, that was not the case. I went to Cal Baptist because the young man I was "engaged" to had gone there and was planning to return. It was 1954. I was 17, had just graduated from high school, and was off to college in September.

I know now I was "in love with love" and enjoyed my friends' enthusiasm at my engagement ring and impending marriage. As I look back, I realize how very immature I was, so unready for this commitment.

Fortunately, my fiancé broke up with me in September or October. I was heartsick ... and stupid. That was the first time Earl and I "went out" together, but only as part of a group. A friend knew how upset I was and asked me to join her group to play miniature golf. Earl was part of the group. Obviously, I had no interest in him at the time because ... I won the game.

The difference between us was enormous: 1) Earl was 27; I was 17; 2) he had spent six years in the Navy and had seen action in WWII; I had barely listened to the news; 3) he was mature and responsible; I was immature and irresponsible.

Fast forward a couple of months. In November the choir would be taking a trip to the Bay Area to attend the Baptist Student Union banquet and sing at the state convention. Earl and I just happened to be eating dinner at the same table, and we got to talking. He said he had lived in San Francisco; I said I had

never been there. He said something like, "I'll take you around to see the city," and I replied, "Sounds good."

He hadn't really meant it; I didn't think he did. Now I know what he had thought of me at the time: When a friend said, "That Ellen Wooding. She's so cute," Earl replied, "But she never stops talking!"

Earl did take me on a sightseeing tour of San Francisco, including the Japanese Gardens. That night was the BSU banquet, and, unknown to me, I had two potential invitations. I was talking to one young man when Earl approached and said, "Ellen, will you go to the banquet with me?" (I remember hoping he would ask me.) The other young man said, "I was going to ask her," but it was too late.

Returning to Southern California after the weekend's events, Earl and I sat together on the bus. From then on, we were an item. Imagine the most unlikely two people going together and that was us. I'm sure all the students, along with the faculty, were shocked at the thought of this strange pairing.

On Dec. 14, 1954, we were returning to the campus, driving down the tree-lined entry road, when Earl asked me to marry him, and I said "Yes!"

Between that date and our wedding one year later — Dec. 14, 1955 — Earl had to return to the VA Hospital after an X-ray showed a slight spot of possible TB. That summer I got my first \$1 an hour job at a self-service gas station, I visited Earl in the San Fernando hospital, I totaled his car, and, in late November, when authorities said he could leave the hospital for two weeks, we set up the wedding.

We have the distinction of being the first couple married in Cal Baptist's chapel, but if you visit the campus you won't be aware — unless... we get there before you and install our own plaque in the room that *was* the chapel.