



CAPITAL CONNECTIONS

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"...many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that He may teach us concerning His ways and that we may walk in His paths." For the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." (Isa. 2:3 NRSV)

This verse was not my focus at the beginning of 2018; not even by the middle of the summer. It is now. I'll travel to Israel with my parents on October 10 for a week-long tour. Israel has been a topic of discussion with my parents now and again. Suddenly they raised the priority level of making a trip there. They've invited me to share the journey with them.

I've enjoyed hearing the stories of several people who've visited Israel. Without exception, they speak about their deeply meaningful spiritual experiences. I'm looking forward to a similar experience. I'll tell you about it when I return on October 19. In my absence, Thomas McCarty will preach. I'm grateful to have the McCartys here, serving together with us.

Here's another update: There've been several results from the busy summer ministry schedule. We received an invitation to Washington Elementary School on October 5th. They want to say, "Thank you," for more than a hundred backpacks and the school supplies that we contributed to the Back-to-School effort.

Rosalba Diaz-Ruiz, the CSOC at Washington Elementary School says, "We would like to invite you and other members to our School Assembly on October 5, at 2:00 p.m. Our Washington students would like to say thank you for your continuous support each year with school supplies and backpacks."

Lastly for this month, we're convening the Ordination Council for Randy Tucker. The Ordination Service will be held on Sunday morning, October 28th. Pray for him and for Lynn during this transition in their lives. And thank you to all of our Deacons for the blessing they are to each of us as we continue to serve the Lord together.

Blessings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Pastor John

" You might have guessed it- but we are still excited! Thank you, Capital, for welcoming us with such generosity that can only come from Jesus. McKenzie, Ollie (the dog) and I know that great things are to come. We covet your prayers and friendship as we continue to make the PNW our "home away from home". To God be the Glory!

In His Service, and Yours
The McCarty Family

Trunk or Treat

Capital's Trunk or Treat will soon be here. We need volunteers to bring and decorate their trunks. And we need candy... lots of candy!

If you are decorating a trunk, please plan to be at the church by 5pm. That provides half an hour for set-up before neighborhood children and their parents begin arriving at 5:30. How does this work? Easy! Just bring your car, we'll provide everything else... décor items, games, candy bowls, candy. If you can think of anything else you need, let Linda Warberg or the office know, and we'll be happy to provide it as well.

Young Adults and Young Families

It's wonderful to have Thomas and McKenzie on board. They're settling into their apartment and getting to know Salem. He has been busy acquainting himself with the resources the Northwest Baptist Convention has to offer, making contacts at Corban and the other universities in the area, getting to know the young adults at Capital and planning how to minister to them.

Thomas is meeting weekly with Pastor John for ministry mentoring and with Linda Warberg for focus activity mentoring. In short, this young man is busy, but he also wants to get to know all of us. If you would like to get to know him better, call or email to arrange a time that will fit into his busy schedule.

Kid's Ministry

This past month, the Children and Preschool teachers and workers met. They decided that instead of dealing with Sunday School, activities, Bible Camp, etc. separately, we should call all activities for children, birth through 5th grade, "Kid's Ministry at Capital".

The decision was made to edit our guiding statement to include this new name. The statement now reads: *At CBC, the Kid's Ministry program engages children in age appropriate biblically-based, fun and safe activities to learn about God, discover a personal relationship with Him and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.*

Other meeting highlights include a tentative list of activities for the coming year, a decision to explore other curriculum and to focus on learning the books of the Bible, key verses, and key Bible people and their stories.

Adult SS Classes

Adult teachers will meet Sunday, September 30 to discuss visitation, how best to serve the adults at Capital. Next month's newsletter will summarize that discussion.

Youth Ministries

Pastor John and Anna Stell have done a wonderful job of working with our youth, but at this time, Pastor John is unable to work with them on Thursday nights. McKenzie McCarty (note: *not Thomas*) will be joining Anna. McKenzie has worked with children and pre-teen ministries in Texas. She and Anna are looking forward to working together as they plan Thursday evenings. Continue to pray for them and our youth.



Last month I shared how Earl and I met. This month, four other Capital couples share their stories.

Bonnie Brough:

Harrison County in north Missouri was the home of Bill's and my parents, grandparents and great grandparents.

Each year, those living in the Kansas City area, held a picnic in Swope Park. From the ages of 4 to 7 we probably played together, though we were not aware of it at the time.

We officially met in a U. S. History class at Central Missouri State College. In those days, students sat in alphabetical order. He, was Brough and I was Brown, so we ended up sitting next to each other.

The following year we had a woodworking, metal and pottery class together. However, he did not finish the class. Three of his brothers had been in the Navy in World War II, and now the Korean Conflict was well underway. He enlisted in the Navy at the end of 1950.

On his first leave we attended a football game, followed by various activities during subsequent leaves. In between, we wrote letters for two years. Then, with one year left on his enlistment, we were married.

Sixty years later (minus three months) sounds like a long time, but it was really way too short.

Bob Warberg:

Spring, 1967, I was discharged from the Air Force. Twenty-one and ready to start the rest of my life, I returned home to Aberdeen, WA, to find a job and get ready for college.

My first Sunday back I went to church as normal at Aberdeen FBC. I noticed that the music director and the organist (Mr. and Mrs. Wacker) had retired, and the church had hired a 15-year-old kid to play the Moeller pipe organ. What a surprise! That pipe organ was considered so "holy" only the paid organist was allowed to touch it, and now they had a kid up there!

To make matters worse my dad said, "You ought to get to know that girl." What was he thinking? I was 21, she was 15. (Dads can be a little dense sometimes, you know.)

I lived at home for a year and a half, working at Safeway and going to the local community college. During that time my brother finished college, started his career and came home to marry his college girlfriend in a small wedding in the church parlor, and that kid organ player showed up to play the piano for the wedding.

In September 1968 I went to Bellingham to attend Western Washington State College. In the fall of 1969, guess who showed up at WWSC? Yep, Ms. Organist.

She was now 18 and a college freshman. To maintain my "really nice guy" image, I asked her out to dinner and a movie, but I had her back at her dorm by 9:30. She was way too immature for this guy.

I ran into her a few times over the summer. Later I found out she knew where I was working and kinda stalked me. The following fall term she asked for a ride home for the holidays (in my new 1969 Mustang). We started talking and got to know each other (and *she* had matured). We got married 9/11/1971, and that's how Linda and Bob got together.

Diane Fowler:

Just before my 15th birthday, my parents announced we were moving to Longview, WA, where my father had found work. Living in Washoe Valley (between Reno and Carson City, NV) I had enjoyed a fairly “free range” childhood and knew everyone who lived up and down our rural road. Their announcement was traumatizing. I remember loudly proclaiming that they were ruining my life, and I would “never have another friend.”

Dad began attending Columbia Heights Baptist Church before the rest of us arrived in Longview. CHBC had a large, active youth group, and the teen boys hung out on the church steps before and after services.

One Sunday morning after church, my mother pointed to this group and said, “That Lonnie Fowler is good looking. I’ve met his folks; they’re very nice.” I did the required ocular rotations and groaned, “grossed out” by my mother’s interest, and determined to have nothing to do with her “choice.”

I soon discovered this wasn’t just a youth group—they were friends. Most of us attended the same school, we spent evenings after services at each other’s homes or local fast food joints, went bowling together, and, since Longview has seven SBC churches, attended a lot of youth associational activities together.

I eventually had to admit Mom was right. After dating for a couple of years, Lonnie asked me to marry him. We chose Dec 8, 1972, a year in the future as our wedding date, little knowing he would be drafted in October and the wedding would have to be rescheduled at the last minute... but that’s another story.

Elaine Lipton:

I’m from Oregon; Pastor John is from New York. We met halfway between in Colorado!

After finishing college, I visited relatives in Colorado and was offered a data processing job my last day in Colorado Springs. I moved there and God led me to First Southern Baptist Church.

A year later John completed his master’s degree in percussion performance at Temple University in Philadelphia and became the new principal percussionist of the Colorado Springs Symphony Orchestra.

Another orchestra member invited him to FSBC. I recall his first visit to the Sunday School class I attended and witnessed his baptism the same day. Later, I discovered that he had become a Christian in Philadelphia a year earlier through the prayers and witness of other music students.

John and I developed a close friendship through church activities and Bible study, and eventually we became aware of God’s desire for us to be married and enter vocational Christian ministry.

One time, during our engagement, I had made John a grilled cheese sandwich and afterward discovered that I had lost the wire wrapper that went on the loaf of bread. After John finished eating, I picked up his plate and noticed the missing wire wrapper with melted cheese attached to it. I realized I had grilled it in his sandwich and was grateful he had not swallowed it. I’m ashamed to say that earlier in the day I had become upset at him. Therefore, he knew it was best to keep quiet about the wrapper!

Seven days after our wedding, we were in Ft. Worth, Texas, to begin seminary at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. We didn’t have an opportunity beforehand to look for employment or a place to live, so the seminary’s housing department found us an apartment.

Just as our savings ran out, I found employment, and since then God has provided each step of the way.
This December we will have been married 34 years.