



from the Heart

LIFE After Death

What does our Pastor of Discipleship, Rev. Shay Reyner, have in common with movie star Scarlet Johansen? Join us this Sunday in worship to find out!! And while you are here, discover what the Bible says about our resurrection bodies coming in the future for those who know Christ as I continue the message series, "Life After Death."

And, join us as we give a warm welcome back to:

- Katie Basden, who has returned from "The Voice" after a great performance.
- Debbie Painter, who has returned from visiting her son (former RBC member and current IMB missionary to Belgium) Justin Ham and narrowly missed the terrorist bombing at the airport.

I also want to repeat this note from last week, since it is so vital to our success:

Thom Rainer, the head of our LifeWay Christian Resources, has written a book describing healthy churches and healthy church members. The title of the book is, "I Will." I'm looking forward to sharing this resource with you in the future. But, for now, let me share nine "I Will's" from Rainer's book, asking you to join me in examining our own lives to see how healthy we are!

Some highlights include:

- Church membership is more about how you can serve than how you can be served.
- If you're not in a small group, you're not a fully functioning member of the body of Christ.
- The entire idea behind *I Will* is to get members focused outwardly.
- Giving is one of the key indicators for being an outwardly focused church member.
- You can tell a person's commitment to their church by looking at their giving statements.
- Traditions are ok, but not when they become an idol in a church.

The nine "I Will" statements are:

1. I Will Move from "I Am" to "I Will"
2. I Will Worship with Others
3. I Will Grow Together with Others
4. I Will Serve
5. I Will Go
6. I Will Give Generously
7. I Will Not Be a Church Dropout
8. I Will Avoid the Traps of Churchianity
9. I Will Make a Difference

On the horizon, we have Growth Intensives this Sunday, Laughter & Latte, Senior Adult recognition, Mother's Day, church night at the Durham Bulls, Memorial Day weekend fellowship and so much more.

On the afternoon of May 1, Pam and I are inviting all of our members 55 and over to our home for a cookout. It will be a great time of fellowship and great eating! Please sign up in the Breezeway and plan to come! You may want to meet at church and ride with a friend. Directions will be available in the Breezeway. And, thanks in advance to our special events team and deacons for providing lots of support!



Pictured: Pastor Marvin, Sally, Pastor Marc Louis, Katie

Thank you also for your warm welcome to the Hispanic church, La Cosecha, who are meeting in our facilities for at least a few weeks. Our deacons, ushers, greeters, and members made them feel welcome last Sunday. Keep

up the good work in the future. We are praying that God is going to meet the need for a Hispanic outreach to our soccer friends on Sunday, as well as for the Hispanic community living in northern Durham.

Join Us Wednesday!!

During his time overseas, Craig Phelps developed a discipleship series to lay a biblical foundation for believers, new and old alike. In it he brings together key ideas in the Old and New Testament which provide a unique insight and understanding of God's plan for our lives and how that plan unfolds in the Bible. Craig will be leading this series and will provide you with a framework for greater understanding of the rest of the Bible, enhancing your personal study, and hopefully impact how you view your daily walk with the Lord and your interaction with other people. Everyone is invited to attend.

There is something at Ridgecrest for each member of your family – as well as your friends and family who are searching for a church home, and / or who may not know Jesus.

I'm amazed at the change God has brought to my life and how He allows me to be a part of what He is doing IN and THROUGH Ridgecrest.

Pastor Marc

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