

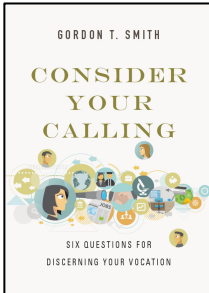
BEAR BULLETIN

• BEAR CREEK CHURCH •

BCC News



March 26, 2017



AT THE BOOK TABLE: *Consider Your Calling: Six Questions for Discerning Your Vocation* by Gordon T. Smith. What on earth is God doing? Who are you? What are your life circumstances? What is the cross you will have to bear? What are you afraid of? We ask these six critical questions—and then we ask them again—at points of transition in our lives. They all lead us to the one core question: What is the good work to which I am called? This short book helps us to explore our calling from God, whatever stage of life we find ourselves in. Graduation is coming up; although this book would be good for anyone at any stage of life, especially in transition.

Also, there are a number of books marked down to ridiculously low prices, like \$1. These are great books that have been damaged a bit and have therefore gone unsold for many months. Search the book table and you will find them.

SOMETIMES MIRACLES HIDE is a luncheon for mothers and a carnival for their children with special needs. Mothers will enjoy a delicious meal, fellowship, rest, and respite and will receive a lovely gift at the end of the event. Meanwhile, their children, including siblings, will have a great time at the carnival where they will enjoy lots of games and activities. They will be paired with a buddy who will play with them and be a friend. Lunch for the children will also be provided. This takes place on Saturday, May 13th from noon – 2pm at First Baptist Church, Medford. Space is limited. Reservations are required, so please RSVP by May 9th by calling (541) 897-0482, (541) 864-9864, or email bolstad@joniandfriends.org.

THE SPRING SEASON OF TOPSoccer IS HERE! TOPSoccer is a recreational activity for families of children with disabilities and their typical siblings. Organized by Bear Creek Church volunteers in cooperation with Youth Soccer and the Rogue Valley Timbers Soccer Club, this unique program enables special athletes to play at levels consistent with their skills, not necessarily their age. Volunteers need to have attended BCC for at least 6 months and be 14 or older. 12 & 13 year-olds can volunteer, but must have a parent/guardian accompany and participate along with them. TOPSoccer takes place each Thursday, beginning April 6th at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School. Volunteers will help out from 6:15-7:45pm. If you have any questions, contact Tom or Debbie Eastwold at tdmleatwold@msn.com or (541) 776-6315.



Pedals 'n Pears: Wilderness Trails is excited to partner with Pedals 'n Pears for their second annual Pear Blossom bike race. A portion of the proceeds from this race will go to fund our free summer camps for over 300 youth this summer. We are also looking for volunteers the day of the event to help run a check-in station for a 3-hour shift. If you would like to learn more, give Jessie a call at 541-890-0322, or go to pedalsnpears.com to register.

See www.bearcreekchurch.org for a list of our current small group opportunities



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UPDATE FROM PASTOR SAM

Dear BCC,

Like Harare, Ulongwe, Malawi is receiving a lot of rain and when it is not raining it will be hot and a bit humid. I trust you are doing well.

Today we finished the third conference with church leaders including deacons, church administrators and their wives at Ulongwe Baptist Church. We had about six pastors and their wives too. These brought their leaders to the training and I must say we now understand why they never wanted to mix with them. While the pastors have little training, their deacons have greater need to be trained. One wonders really what the church leaders, the pastors are doing to equip them.



They are heavily influenced by their culture and Islam in their relationships with their wives and families. Today we discovered that quite a number of the men physically abuse their wives and others have extramarital relationships that are known to the wives.

Having realized their lack of scriptural knowledge, I taught them from Acts 6:1-7, and it made them aware they did not have the biblical qualifications to be deacons and above all did not truly know Christ. Their English is not good. I had to interview them and will transcribe it. The new pastor of Ulongwe Baptist Church, pastor Banda today told me that he raised his hand to receive Jesus because we had explained to him well enough for him to understand that our God is different from Allah and that is why he had asked if there was a difference between the two during the training.



I will write you more tomorrow but we brought 45 dresses and 12 T-shirts made by Bear Creek Church ladies and we will be giving these away tomorrow morning to the less privileged. So thankful some young people will go home smiling tomorrow.

Grateful to the Lord

Pastor Sam for the team

UPCOMING

- May 13th Sometimes Miracles Hide - Reservations required. For information contact Brent at bolstad@joniandfriends.org
- Jun 29th - July 3rd BCC Campout
- Aug 14-18 JAF Family Retreat #1 at Twin Rocks - more details at joniandfriends.org/family-retreats/detail/twin-rocks-i-2017
- Aug 21-25 JAF Family Retreat #2 at Twin Rocks - "