

4.19.26 Heritage Updates

Green Thumbs Wanted

It's that time of year to clean out our gardens and see what needs to be planted. Please look at the property map in the hall and sign up for the area you'd like to help maintain. See a deacon for more information.

April Ladies' Dinner Out 4.21

We're going back for more Chick Fil A Bingo this month. **Meet at the New Castle Chick Fil A** (107 S. DuPont Hwy) at **5:30 pm for dinner. Bingo runs from 6-7:00.** Contact Amy Forrest by noon on 4.21 if you plan to attend, 302-359-2194.

Thursday Women's Study, 4.23

We're continuing with Lesson 6 of *Living a Purposeful Life*, meeting every **other Thursday from 10:00 - 10:30 am** here at the church.

Mission Prayer Meeting, 4.23

We meet immediately following the Women's Bible Study to pray for our local and foreign missionaries and organizations. (Men, you're invited too!) We meet **every other Thursday from about 10:30 - 11:00 am.**

Heritage Kids

Nursery is available for **infants-PreK** during worship (if staffing allows). Feel free to use it for however much of the service you desire.

Junior Church is available (if staffing allows) during the 2nd half of the service for students in **Kindergarten through 4th grade**. Children are dismissed during the songs before the sermon and return during the final song. The classroom is in the back of Fellowship Hall - straight out the back of the sanctuary.

Red Folder activity pages are also available at the table by the sanctuary door for anyone who wishes to use them.

God's Kingdom Building: A Door of Hope

April is Abortion Recovery Awareness Month: Studies estimate that **one in four US women will have an abortion in her lifetime.**

We know that countless women and men in our community are impacted by abortion. **And we know that, in Christ, there is hope and healing after abortion.**

A friend of A Door of Hope courageously shared her own story of finding forgiveness after abortion. Excerpts from this story:

Upon graduating from college and taking a job, it would seem as though my life as an independent woman was off to a great start. **To family, friends, and acquaintances, it appeared I had it all together.** No one could see the brokenness on the inside – the insecurity and the feeling that nothing I did or accomplished was ever good enough. I found myself making important life decisions to please others. In many ways, my life was a lie, and the consequences of some of my decisions would be lifechanging.

Although I grew up going to church, **I never really thought much about God and certainly didn't understand what it meant to have a personal relationship with Christ.**

Despite the influence of [some] godly people, I had inappropriate relationships with men, enjoying the attention and security that came with it. Eventually, I found myself pregnant. **My initial response was to go into a state of denial.** There was no way I could have a baby; I could never tell my parents... There was no other option for me but to terminate the pregnancy.

A couple of months after my abortion, the Christian woman I had befriended led me to Christ. My faith was weak, and I questioned how this would change my life. I had convinced myself that I had made the right decision to abort my baby. **I also believed that my abortion experience was something that I could keep secret and forget about.**

Too often I wonder how many women are experiencing the deep wounds of abortion and need the healing and forgiveness available to them that only our loving and merciful God offers through Christ. I lived in silence for twenty years. I never realized how much shame, guilt, and regret I was carrying around inside, affecting my relationships and my ability to experience all that God had planned for me.

If you are suffering after an abortion, you are not alone, and you can heal. Please call us at 302-998-9000 for more information about A Door of Hope's Abortion Recovery Assistance. All inquiries are confidential.