

There is always room for each of us in God's lap

With Mother's Day in May and Father's Day in June, it seems like the late spring and early summer are seasons that give us the chance to focus on the importance of our family relationships, and of the blessings that we receive from our families.

Several years ago, I read an interesting story about an elementary school teacher, who served in an inner city school. She said that many of her first-grade students were missing so many fundamental experiences others often took for granted, and to drive home

Meditation



Dr. Jeff Hensley
Pastor
Kings Mountain Baptist Church

made a deep impression on her heart.

Terrence was a small child with light skin, big brown eyes and brown hair

that was seldom combed. To most folks who knew him, Terrence was like a throwaway. He had basically been raised by his brother, who was a year older, and an 18-year-old sister. Terrence's mom was frequently in jail with numerous problems, and Terrence was thus a child who, if it weren't for the breakfast and lunch programs at school, would never eat a nutritional meal.

Dinner for Terrence was a "Butterfinger" candy bar and a cola, and when Terrence came to school his

teacher noticed how sad he often was. She knew that no one had ever loved or cherished this small, scared child, and so during group reading times she would ask Terrence to sit in her lap and help her turn the pages.

At first, Terrence didn't even know how to sit in her lap and lean against her, but he soon learned. Unfortunately, it wasn't long before Terrence's mother was arrested again, and Terrence had to leave the school and go to live with his sister. The teacher was saddened by his depart-

ture and wished she could have done more for him.

These feelings were deepened when, a few years later, the teacher learned that Terrence had been killed in a freak accident. "My heart was broken when I heard of Terrence's death," she said. "I told my family how sad I was; how I had never taught him a single thing. He couldn't read when he left me, nor could he write when he left me. All I had taught him to do was sit in a woman's lap and what kind of life skill is that?"

A few days after she

and her family had discussed her sadness and inability to reach Terrence, this teacher's own small son came to her, climbed up into her lap, and then said, "Mommy, it's a good thing you taught that little boy to sit in someone's lap because he's sitting in God's lap right now."

There are few places where we may feel as safe as we feel when we are small enough to sit in our mother's lap, but we can be thankful that there are Godly parents who remind us that there is always room for us in God's lap.

Fellowship & Faith



Featured Church of the Week:

Central United Methodist Church

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To follow is a list of upcoming Churches of the Week. If your church is listed here and you have a special event that you would like listed on your feature week - please contact Lisa at 704-739-7496 or e-mail lisa.kmherald@gmail.com

- 5/27 Dixon Presbyterian
- 6/3 Family Worship Center
- 6/10 Bethlehem Baptist
- 6/17 Life of Worship

- KINGS MOUNTAIN**
- Long Creek Presbyterian Church
701 Long Creek Road
704-629-4406
 - Love Valley Baptist Church
2032 Bethlehem Road
704-730-0075
 - Macedonia Baptist Church
1101 S. Battleground Avenue
704-739-6811
 - Midview Baptist Church
703 Margrace Road
704-739-6711
 - Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church
220 N. Watterson Street
704-739-8354
 - Mountain View Agape Church
506 Sparrow Springs Road
704-739-0160
 - Mt. Olive Baptist Church
Compact School Road
704-739-4516
 - Mt. Zion Baptist Church
220 N. Watterson Street
704-739-8354
 - New Beginnings Church of Jesus Christ
541 Crocker Road
704-730-9507
 - New Bynum Chapel Zion Church
N. Cansler Street
704-739-2606

- New Camp Creek Baptist Church
863 New Camp Creek Ch. Road
704-487-7128
- New Life Family Worship Center
428 Oak Grove Road
704-739-9371
- New Way Missionary Baptist Church
105 Waco Road
704-724-0414
- Oak Grove Baptist Church
1022 Oak Grove Road
704-739-4833
- Oak View Baptist Church
1517 York Road
704-739-7831
- Pathway Baptist Church
3100 Parkdale Circle
704-734-0852
- Patterson Grove Baptist Church
301 Oak Grove Road
704-739-5826
- Peoples Baptist Church
1010 Groves Street
704-739-0398
- Progressive Church of Our Lord
1001 Cleveland Avenue
704-734-1070
- Resurrection Lutheran Church
600 Crescent Circle
704-739-5580
- Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church
201 N. Piedmont Avenue
704-739-7466
- Second Baptist Church
120 Linwood Road
704-739-4216
- Shady Grove Baptist Church
339 Shady Grove Road
704-739-8920
- St. Paul United Methodist Church
N. Cansler Street
704-739-1256

- Solid Rock Baptist Church
1908 Shelby Road
704-739-4186
- Sunrise Baptist Church
208 Mail Road
704-692-3007
- Temple Baptist Church
612 N. Cansler Street
704-739-4716
- True Gospel Holiness Church
1608 Shelby Road
704-739-6764
- Unity AME Zion Church
948 Unity Church Road
704-228-0328
- Vestibule AME Zion Church
2175 Vestibule Church Road
704-739-7961
- Westover Baptist Church
114 Westover Drive
704-739-2187

- GASTONIA**
- Bethesda United Methodist Church
3714 S. New Hope Rd
 - Grace Community Advent Christian Church
206 West 3rd Avenue
704-739-9230
- GROVER**
- Bethany Baptist Church
423 Cleveland Avenue
704-937-3010
 - Carolina Praise and Worship Center
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 - Proclaiming the Word Ministries
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