

FEBRUARY
2019

A PUBLICATION OF ROYSTON BAPTIST CHURCH

life together
MONTHLY

juxtaposition noun

jux·ta·po·si·tion | \ jək-stə-pə-'zi-shən

Definition of *juxtaposition*

: the act or an instance of placing two or more things side by side often to compare or contrast or to create an interesting effect

// an unusual *juxtaposition* of colors

also : the state of being so placed

// contrasting shapes placed in *juxtaposition* to each other

Light and Dark. Hope and Despair. Calm and Chaos. Success and Failure. Strength and Weakness.

Typically, you cannot have the first in the presence of the second. But, during the season of Lent, interesting things happen when opposites are juxtaposed. Lent is a time for self-reflection and penitence, a time to acknowledge our sinfulness and need for God's mercy as we prepare for the celebration of resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Don't worry, Lent is still a month away, but this year, we are going to do something that may be new to many of you, so I want to begin the conversation. Wednesday, March 6, 2019 is the first day of Lent and we will participate in an Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary at 6:30 pm. This service will begin our journey of juxtapositions through the wilderness to the last supper in the upper room to the betrayal to the crucifixion, and then finally to the empty tomb. At the conclusion of the service you will have the opportunity to have ashes imposed on your forehead in the shape of a cross. The ashes will serve as a visible reminder that you are on your journey following Jesus to death and then to life.

If we take it seriously, it will be uncomfortable because we will open ourselves up to vulnerability. We will uncover things we have left hidden. We will wrestle with our sins and the things that keep us from following Jesus more fully. We will come face-to-face with our certain death. Yet, if we take it seriously, we will find renewed life on the journey, and full joy at our final destination on Easter Sunday.

The juxtapositions of mortality and eternity, sin and grace, death and life, make the path of Jesus' cross and tomb a rugged, yet rewarding terrain. I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 6:30 pm as we begin this journey of juxtapositions together.

William



MUSIC NOTES

"Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you."
Psalm 84:4.

There is a hidden life prior to us meeting on Sunday morning. You know it and live it! I too have experienced the morning "crazy" of getting up at dark o'clock to get the pot roast lunch in the oven, throwing myself together and battling with my kids over the morning struggles of not eating their breakfast, not liking the clothes we set out the night before, and the last-minute spill that means a change of clothes and that we are late getting out the door ... again! It might be the backpain that kept you up all night, the fear of having to sit alone, the fatigue of a 60-hour workweek, or the endless to-do list after church that means an after-

noon nap is not an option! Whatever it might be, your mind is probably anywhere else but at the feet of Jesus. We cannot possibly imagine how God calls us blessed to dwell in His house and feel like a hypocrite when we try to relate to the 2nd half of Psalm 84:4, "They are ever praising you." But the truth is, you began honoring the Lord when you set your alarm clock the night before and committed to being present in the congregation, despite how you might feel. God knows that on some Sundays, it is all we can do just to be present. Your commitment renders Satan powerless to keep you away from the

place where there is healing and restoration. There is beauty in coming into the family of God with vulnerability and honesty. Sometimes our praise comes in the silent tears that fall with the statement of, "Here I am, Lord" and that is enough. Worshipping together in God's family brings us out of ourselves and into the relief of knowing there is Someone greater than us who is faithful to accomplish His will in our lives, despite our weaknesses. This Sunday we will have the door open and you come just as you are!

Philippians 1:6,

Deborah

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

You may be noticing a few changes and updates to our various publications and communication outlets. With each of these changes comes an effort at clearer and more efficient ways to let you all know what is going on in the life of Royston Baptist Church.

The bulletin on Sunday mornings includes all of the same information, but in a new format. It is my hope that this format helps the elements of

worshipping God to be the main focus with announcements and other information to be secondary.

You will also notice that our newsletter, *Life Together Monthly*, will now be coming out...well, monthly! The information within will now be a focus on individual ministries and we will include a monthly calendar pull-out sheet with announcements, birthdays, and

ministry assignments for you to hang on your fridge!

Finally, we will now have a new weekly email, *Life Together Online*, which will include the regular prayer list as well as a round-up of announcements and other pertinent information.

If you have any questions, I'd love to chat! Thankful I get to do Life Together with you.

Mary Kate

LOOKING BACK WITH THANKFULNESS

January 27th, 2019 was my last day as Children's Minister. Four years went like the blink of an eye. Four years ago, I sat at a table with Jonathan Barlow and we went over duties and responsibilities but I had no idea what I was really agreeing to. For the first few months, I think I was lost and trying to keep up. Thank goodness the

folks at RBC are patient! I don't know if I ever really became great at the job but I did fall in love with the people and the children. I am so in awe of the love and support I have received during my time at Royston Baptist Church. I am so thankful that I get to keep that. I think God is forcing me to take a mandatory break but I

pray He allows me to return quickly and continue to serve under the beautiful steeple that towers above the beautiful people of Royston Baptist Church! Thank you for loving me and my family and for allowing me to serve as Children's Minister for 4 wonderful years!!

Teresa

COOK SOMETHING UP FOR THE YOUTH

On Sunday, February 24th, at 5:00 PM, bring your chili or pie hot & ready for our lovely judges. Just want to eat? Come ready to test and vote on the best dish! Drinks and games will be provided. Come get to know our youth, enjoy a meal, and show off your cooking skills. All proceeds will go

straight to our youth mission trips and camps. If you would



like to contribute chili or a pie for the contest, sign up outside the front office by February 15th. Youth will be selling tickets for \$7 each and they can be purchased directly from the youth on Sundays or Wednesday nights, or from Andrew. Any questions or concerns, contact Andrew Smith.

FEBRUARY COMMUNITY MISSIONS PROJECT

Our February Mission of the Month highlights the teachers and staff of Royston Elementary

School. We want to continue to show them our appreciation and support for their service to

our children by providing a breakfast on Tuesday February 26th and collecting specific supplies that the teachers need. Please be on the lookout for a list of needed items, and let Colleen Phillips or Jina Harris know if you would like to help provide food for 71 people!



Royston Baptist Church

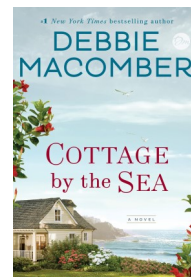
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IN THE CHRIS TILLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

This month, we invite you to come check out *Cottage by the Sea* by Debbie Macomber. This uplifting novel is a story of a sea-side town that helps one young woman reclaim the light after darkness. The Chris Tiller Memorial Library opens every Sunday at 9:30 AM



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