

CATAWBA FOCUS

Monthly Newsletter of Catawba Valley Baptist Church

TRANSCENDENT

holy

JUST

immutable

patient

WISE

GOOD

JEALOUS

KNOW GOD DEEPLY

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sovereign

LOVE

powerful

WRATH

immanent

ETERNAL

"CREATURES ARE NOT BORN WITH DESIRES UNLESS SATISFACTION FOR THOSE DESIRES EXISTS . . .

IF I FIND IN MYSELF A DESIRE WHICH NO EXPERIENCE IN THIS WORLD CAN SATISFY, THE MOST PROBABLE EXPLANATION IS THAT I WAS MADE FOR ANOTHER WORLD."

C.S. LEWIS

DO YOU KNOW GOD?

"He is actually not far from each one of us"

We are living in a day and age where people are *ignorant* of God. It is this ignorance that lies at the root of the church's weakness today. A. W. Tozer said, "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." The issues our society has grappled with over the last number of decades are symptoms of a much deeper problem, the rejection of God himself. By rejecting our Creator, mankind has in turn rejected His Word.

On Sunday mornings at Catawba, we've been considering what it means to *Know God Deeply* and in turn to *Follow God Boldly*. In every generation, it is people who know their God deeply that step out in faith boldly to follow Him. In the book of Daniel we read, "the people who know their God, will be strong and take action." Our desire at Catawba Valley, is that we would be these kind of people. The ambition of our life should be to know God because He is worthy, and to make Him known because people are God's greatest investment.

Join us on Sunday mornings as we continue to glimpse the character of God as revealed to us through His Word. We're reminded in Acts 17, that God "is actually not far from each one of us." The God of the universe desires to have a relationship with you! A relationship made possible through the person of Christ Jesus. Visit us online to find out how you can begin a relationship with Jesus Christ today!

WILD GAME DINNER 2020

Exceeding all expectations

Wow! What an incredible turnout for our 7th annual Wild Game Dinner! There were over **475 people** in attendance, and the fundraiser brought in **nearly \$18,000**, which directly impacts our student ministries!

We praise the the Lord for His great provision and enabling our church to host this event. We want to thank all of you who volunteered for the Wild Game Dinner in any capacity. Without your time, energy, and efforts, this massive undertaking would not be possible! Our students did a fantastic job in serving and presenting the entire evening. Also, a big thank you goes out to those who donated items for our live and silent auctions!

This was a record-setting year, and we are so excited about the opportunities the Lord will bring about because of this fundraiser. Every year we are reminded that Wild Game Dinner is a team effort, and we're truly grateful for the team the Lord has assembled here!

Most of all, we are grateful to the Lord for His provision and that His glorious gospel was heard by so many in our community. Every year we stand in amazement of His goodness, provision, and grace. The money raised at Wild Game Dinner directly impacts many children and teenagers through our student ministries. For instance, Wild Game Dinner provides the funding for special events for our students throughout the year, such as: summer camps, retreats, mission trips, VBS, service opportunities, special activities, and much more! We are anticipating the greatest year of student ministry yet!



LADIES PRAYER ADVANCE

March 19-21, 2020

Christ Life Ministries is hosting the Ladies Prayer Advance at Shenandoah Baptist Church. This unique gathering prevails with an amazing atmosphere, where hundreds of "hungry-hearted, faith-filled saints" collectively seek the Lord!

This year's theme is **"More than Conquerors."** Featured speakers include: Reba Bowman and Kurt Skelly. Come and be a part of this incredible time to encounter God in ways you never have before, pressing in to the victorious life that we have in Christ.

If you have questions or would like to register, please contact Emily Vaughan, (540) 798-0892. For more information regarding pricing, registration information, or the event schedule you can visit: christlifemin.org

Support CVBC Students while you shop!



Community Rewards®

You can support our student ministries each time you shop at Kroger and swipe your Kroger Plus Card by registering it online. It's easy to do and you only need to register your card one time each year.

Register Your Card Online?

Step one: "Sign In" or "Create an Account"
www.krogercommunityrewards.com

Step two: Under the "Community Rewards" tab search for Catawba Valley Baptist Church

Step three: Select "Enroll" under our church's name and start earning points!

MAKING DISCIPLES IN EAST AFRICA

Developing a pivotal partnership with MLI



In Matthew 28, we read of Jesus's commission to His church, where He says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and **make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

It is in recognizing our mission mandate by Christ to make disciples of all nations, that we must evaluate the **ministries** and **unique gifting** distinctive to our congregation. When we do this, we are better able to understand our **specific part** in advancing God's kingdom around the world in this generation. As we consider what God has entrusted to us, we believe our relationship with Mission Link International these past seven years is not by coincidence. It is from this understanding, that with much prayer and consideration, the leadership of our church envisions creating a more pivotal partnership with MLI this coming year.

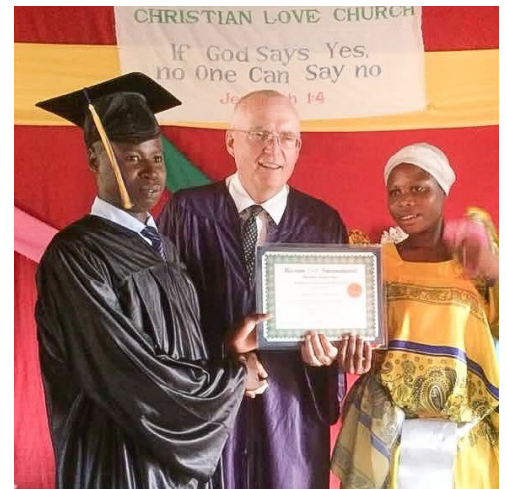
In 1998, under the direction of Dr. Rick Sadler, MLI was officially established as a non-profit ministry in the Commonwealth of Virginia, created for the purpose of strengthening and supporting indigenous mission work. *Indigenous missions* "does not send missionaries from one nation, people group, or culture to another; rather, it works through missionaries that are native to the people group in which they are ministering."¹ Similarly, our church exists to "**glorify God by obeying His mission and making Him known here and around the world.**" It is from this conviction that we believe the partnership with MLI would provide a **strategic outlet** for our church to be actively engaged in global, indigenous mission work, and has the potential to change the trajectory of how we participate in the great commission.

You might be asking the question, out of all the global ministries taking place around the world, "Why Mission Link?" The answer to that question is straightforward. It is because of one word . . . **relationship**. Together, Catawba Valley and Mission Link International share a common vision to see the gospel of Jesus Christ go forward around the world, and disciples to be raised up to reach their *own country* for Jesus Christ. Over the last seven years, the relationship that has been formed and the direction that has been shared makes this partnership a great opportunity, since our heart for missions rests in the same place.

For instance, one of the **primary objectives** of Mission Link International is to **train and equip national pastors** and church leaders in the Bible. The **MLI Christian Study Center**, taught by a group of pastor-teachers (pictured below), has the goal to equip disciples to reach their country for Christ. The East African Headquarters (pictured below) located in Jinja, Uganda, serves as a primary base of ministry for the MLI Staff. The teachers of the MLI Christian Study Center travel into various parts of East Africa in order to establish satellite training schools for pastors and church leaders who are unable to travel to Jinja. MLI has three schools in Uganda, one in Tanzania, and is currently building a training center in Kenya. Our support of these indigenous pastor-teachers furthers the great commission of making disciples of all nations.

Our desire at Catawba Valley is to see global discipleship relationships strengthened and sustainable multiplication take place. Please continue to pray as more information about this exciting endeavor will be provided in the days ahead!

Center bottom picture (left to right): Pastor Julius Lucinda (MLI teacher in Tanzania), Pastor Philip Tenywa (Uganda Director), Pastor George Stanley (MLI teacher), Pastor James Abalyawo (MLI head teacher). **Left picture** (left to right): Brother Paul (MLI teacher) and Pastor James (MLI head teacher). **Right picture**: MLI graduate with Dr. Rick Sadler at Katogua Village. 1. HeartCry Missions. www.heartcrymissionary.com



Learn more about the ministry of MLI at www.missionlink.org



Easter Sunrise

Celebrating Our Risen Savior

The dawn of Easter Sunday is rapidly approaching, as we look forward to commemorating Christ's powerful resurrection from the dead. We will begin the morning with a true Sunrise Celebration on the grounds of our new property on Rt. 311 at 7:30 am. There we will gather to praise God for Christ's completed work on the cross and the new life He offers to us through His resurrection. We will also thank Him for the numerous ways He has moved in our congregation this year, especially by answering many years of prayer in providing the new property. We ask that you please bring your own chair to the Sunrise Celebration.

Following our time on the grounds, we will be having breakfast at the church building at 9:15am. Biscuits, gravy, and beverages will be provided, so we ask that families bring other breakfast dishes to share with the congregation. Immediately after breakfast, the Easter Worship Service will commence in the chapel at 10:30am. Childcare will be provided during the Worship Service.

We have so much to celebrate on Easter Sunday. Come join us and take part in remembering the tremendous cost of our salvation, and the triumphant victory Christ achieved for us!

EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

7:30am | Sunrise Celebration at New Property

9:15am | Breakfast at CVBC

10:30am | Easter Worship Service in the Chapel

SPECIAL DATES

**March 19-21
LADIES PRAYER ADVANCE**

**March 29-April 1
NICKELSVILLE MISSION TRIP**

**June 1-5
CAMP EAGLE (JUNIORS)**

**June 4-19
UGANDA PASTOR'S CONFERENCE**

**June 13-26
UGANDA MISSION TRIP**

**July 12-16
MYSTERY ISLAND VBS**

**July 28-August 1
TEEN ADVENTURE CAMP**

**September 16-20
MISSIONS CONFERENCE**

**October 16-18
COUPLES RETREAT**

**October 28
TRUNK-OR-TREAT**

*A complete calendar of events can be found on our website at catawbavalleybc.org

KNOW GOD DEEPLY FOLLOW GOD BOLDLY

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WE GLORIFY GOD BY OBEYING HIS MISSION AND MAKING HIM KNOWN HERE AND AROUND THE WORLD