

MILK AND HONEY

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The Craddock Center
(Enriching Lives through Service)

May, 2006

WHERE CAN YOU FIND FORGIVENESS?

Among a group of preachers? How about preaching workshop attendees? Ask me later – I'll tell you...

Many astute Milk & Honey readers who are handy with calendar and memory have likely noticed that I made a terrible mistake. I proudly flaunted that anyone interested in attending the October preaching workshop must register right away to have any chance of receiving one of the 90 allotted seats (a statement that is still true; today, 77 are registered). Where I erred is this: the date. As tradition has it, we have workshops on Mondays - a day many ministers decide to curl up with a good book or lie around in a hammock. I reported to you, albeit indirectly, that the workshop would be held on a Friday - the day many ministers begin thinking about writing Sunday's sermon. Let me be clear: we at The Craddock Center are interested in interfering with leisure, not industry! Thus, the October workshop will be held on Monday, October 2, *not* Friday, October 6.

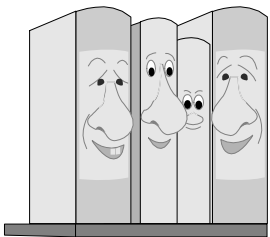
(For those of a gracious heart, might I also add that our March workshop was held on Monday, March 6.)

Those interested in attending really must make haste – even though it's only May, the workshop is truly almost at capacity. We said "y'all come", and you've listened and obeyed.

My apologies for any confusion I created. I hope to see you in October. - TRS



LITERACY PARTNERS



That's the name of the program Scholastic has developed for organizations such as ours who distribute books free of charge to folks in the community. We are now members of

Literacy Partners, and that means we receive great discounts on our book orders, free shipping, and 10 free books for every \$150 we spend on Scholastic books. We are grateful to Scholastic for such a program. You too can be one of our literacy partners...Scholastic provides the "10 free", and you can help with the \$150, should you be so inclined. We'll do our part to order and distribute the books through the Story Express. Together we can spread the love of reading throughout the community. - TRS

CAN YOU SPEAK WELSH?

The Welsh language is quite lovely, but looks pretty complicated. The name of the Welsh choir that will perform at Appalachian Weekend is the Onllwyn Male Voice Choir. Onllwyn is pronounced "Ahn-Kloyn". The word means *ash grove*. You probably knew that. I didn't. Onllwyn is actually the name of a coal mining village in the Dulais Valley of southern Wales. Be sure to hide this little cheat sheet if Fred walks by. I want you to focus on my homework, so I'm going to make Welsh research a little easier for you. - TRS



WEAVING A TALE

Six representatives from The Craddock Center's Children's Enrichment Program attended Patchwork Tales Storytelling Festival presented by York County Library, Rock Hill, SC, March 30th - April 1st. Sue and Bill Canady, Pam Lindsey, Tracy Walker, and Debbie From visited 24 selected local second grade classrooms telling stories as part of the festival programming. The Storytellers were then treated to a luncheon and heard stories from other regional storytellers. Saturday and Sunday were spent in workshops on creative dramatics, songs, & stories and concerts by nationally recognized storytellers. The Craddock Center was recognized at the luncheon on Thursday. Many thanks to Betsy Doty for organizing our participation in this event. A special thank you, also, to her brother and sister-in-law, Bill & Peg Brust, for hosting our group. - PTL



THE CRADDOCK CENTER
947 CHERRY LOG STREET
P.O. BOX 69
CHERRY LOG, GA 30522

706/632-1772

craddockcenter@tds.net
www.craddockcenter.org

Teresa R. Slemons, Director
Dr. Fred B. Craddock, Dir. of Development
Tammy T. Blair, Office Manager

JUST PEACHY

Pam Lindsey, Children's Enrichment Program Coordinator, shared songs and information about our Children's Enrichment Program with one of the Christian Women's Fellowship groups at Peachtree Christian Church on April 24. I went along because I heard there was going to be a free lunch. Pam did an excellent job of showing what goes on each week, and the CWF members were gracious hosts, asking excellent questions and even joining along playing cans and spoons. A good time was had by all. – TRS

Interested in having us speak to your organization? Please contact us.

STORY EXPRESS ON THE MOVE



You'll be happy to hear how busy the Story Express has been as of late... it made three appearances in one week! The Gilmer County Food Pantry began opening its doors on Thursday evenings (in addition to Wednesday mornings), so, on April 20, the Story Express was at the Pantry, distributing books. On April 22, the Story Express was a part of the Earth Day celebration in Gilmer County, with Betsy Doty and Allison Gars telling stories and reading to children. On April 28, Pam Lindsey, Connie Chancey, and Kim Cheves took the Story Express to Copper Basin Elementary School for a Head Start/Pre-K parents' meeting. Children present received a free book of a story told to them by Miss Connie. Thanks to Kim Cheves for driving, and to all involved for getting the words out. -TRS

YOU TOO CAN HELP

Can you think of a way you can help the Craddock Center? This is your new assignment. In the not-too-distant future, we'll be letting you know of different needs for volunteers. We already have several regular volunteers, and they need some folks to keep them company. However, we don't need to have the building repainted, or our plumbing replaced, right now – thanks anyway. - TRS

OUR SQUARE TABLE IS ACTUALLY ROUND

When preachers come to the Center to discuss preaching. They do, you know, in groups of 4 to 12, from far and near, from large church and small, with and without years of experience. All we ask is when, how many, and how long. Oh yes, we do ask that the group make an offering to the Center. Lunch is served at the Center so we can also eat together.



And the table is round: no pecking order, no preferential treatment, no question out of order or unimportant. I could talk all day about preaching, but I try not to. The questions brought by participants are primary.

When we reach the end of our time together we are never finished; we just quit. Look at this sampling of questions that have arisen and you'll see why we never finish.

- Did you ever preach what you yourself did not believe?
- What is meant by Scripture being inspired?
- Are all preachers hypocrites, not living up to their own words?
- Are churches more suspicious of preachers or am I paranoid?
- After I preach, I can't remember what I said. Is that normal?
- My family doesn't attend services anymore. Should I resign?
- Why do I feel more comfortable preaching outside the pulpit?
- Would getting feedback on my sermons be beneficial?
- I don't think I should preach on every issue that arises. Am I a coward?
- Tell me again exactly what pulpit plagiarism is?
- Will I ever lose my stage fright?
- My associate is a better preacher than I am. Now what?
- Where can I get help in choosing commentaries?
- I want compliments but do not handle them well. Why?
- Should I preach when I feel I have nothing to say?
- Will visual media replace preaching?
- Walk us through your preparation process, and go slow.

- FBC

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(Enriching Lives Through Service)
P.O. Box 69
Cherry Log, Georgia 30522