



OCTOBER 2017

Christian Encounter Ministries NEWSLETTER

FALL WORK DAY

SAT. OCT 14, 9AM-1PM
LUNCH IS PROVIDED

Please RSVP to
cem@christianencounter.org

A Timely Farewell

God gave us seasons in the natural world. As we all discover at some point—usually as we get older—there are seasons to our lives, as well. Youth is sometimes described as springtime, summer as early adulthood, autumn as our later adult years, and winter as those years when the end of our earthly lives becomes ever more imminent. With more than eight decades of life behind me, I can't deny that "winter" is coming.

Barbara and I recently spent an enjoyable two weeks vacationing in Oregon and Washington. We visited family, personal friends, and friends of CEM. We made some new friends for CEM, as well. During that time, I mused frequently about the changes that the aging process brings to us. I began to focus on my growing awareness that lately I have not been responding as positively as I once did to the challenges of administrative work.

Over and over again, I have observed people for whom their work became "work," rather than a source of joy. This is especially tragic when the work that no longer brings joy is the Lord's work. I haven't reached that point; I began praying long ago that God would prevent me from doing so. I think the Lord spoke to me about the matter on our vacation. Toward the end of our trip, I asked



Barbara for her perspective on what I was considering. She responded by saying, "You are more relaxed now than at any time since we have known each other." That was the confirmation I needed.

I have decided that it is time for me to retire and open the doors to younger, more vigorous leaders. Two years ago, the CEM Board called me to lead this ministry. From then to now, I have seen this call as a privilege. This relatively short season of my life has enabled me to close out my formal life of service in a ministry that is more vital

and important than any other in which I have served in the past 60 years.

CEM is a powerful ministry with a nearly half-century-long history of rescuing God's hurting children. It is indeed "God's family" for many whose earthly families have failed them. Barbara and I have been blessed to share in this family relationship. She joins with me in saying, "CEM is worthy of your strong support."

Chuck Boatman, Executive Director 2016-2017

Dear Friends of CEM,

It is with mixed emotions that we, the CEM Board of Directors, have accepted Chuck Boatman's resignation and announcement of retirement.

As a Board, we have come to appreciate Chuck as a man of godly character with a profound heart for Kingdom service and ministry. We recognize him as a gifted teacher with a gentle spirit and an openness to the needs of those around him. During his tenure, Chuck worked willingly with the

Board in all respects and was instrumental in revitalizing CEM's presence in the local community as well as connecting with old and new friends in not-so-local communities.

We rejoice with Chuck and Barbara as they venture into a new era of their lives, and are excited for Chuck as he discovers the joys of his new identity as a "retiree." We know Chuck will never retire as a Kingdom servant, but will find new ways of engaging in that role which are both fulfilling and relaxing. Our prayers are with

Chuck, hoping Barbara's recent recognition of his relaxed demeanor will continue to be a blessing to them both.

Mike Boon
Chairman, CEM Board of Directors

We will be having a time of prayer and celebration with Chuck and Barbara on Sunday, October 15th. Please check our website for more details.



CHRISTIAN ENCOUNTER
MINISTRIES

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Planned Giving

Did you know there are creative ways you can support Christian Encounter Ministries that will benefit you, your loved ones and CEM? Contact us to hear more about Planned Giving and how you can make a lasting legacy in the lives of our students and interns.

Christian Encounter Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational, residential program helping 16- to 25-year-olds by providing love, spiritual guidance, high school education, counseling, and 24-hour supervision. Internships are offered to qualifying upper-level college students and graduates. CEM is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, and all gifts are tax deductible.



MEMORIALS

In memory of Jack Anderson, given by:
Jim and Marion Parker

In memory of Larry Van Cleave, given by:
Davis and Nurene Bundock
Betty Lloyd

In memory of Esther McCann, given by:
Mike and Susie Petrillo

In memory of John Tyrrell, given by:
David and Lori Tyrrell

In memory of Kirk Davis, given by:
Jan Meredith

In memory of Billie Sullivan, given by:
Pat Longest

In memory of Cyndy Maxwell, given by:
Jan Meredith

HONORARIUMS

In honor of Dave & Sue Mott, given by:
Donna Chambless

In honor of John Yates, given by:
Dean James

Blessings

Portable generator
2000 VW Beetle
Sign and frame for Agony Ride
250 lbs of beef
Abundance of produce
Lots of pantry items and canned goods
Lots of used clothing
Assorted recreational equipment
Several bales of alfalfa hay
Assorted toiletries
Assorted bedding
Outdoor patio set

Needs

Fillet board
Rada knife sharpener
Riding mower
Brisa 4800 CFM swamp cooler (3)
Pull down U.S. and world maps
Money for school chairs
Highlighters
Dry erase markers and erasers
3x5 lined flash cards
Sheet protectors