



Journey with us, destination greatness!

DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Are you an active member? -----The kind that would be missed;
Or are you just contented ----- That your name is on the list
Do you attend the meetings? ----- And mingle with the crowd;
Or do you stay at home, -----And crab both long and loud
Do you take an active part? ----- To help the work along;
Or are you satisfied to be ----- The kind who "just belongs"
Do you bring in new members? ----- And help the old ones stick:
Or leave the work to just a few ----- And talk about the "clique"
There is quite a program scheduled ----- That means success if done;
And it can be accomplished ----- With the help of everyone.
So attend the meetings regularly, ----- And help with hand and heart;
Don't be "just a member" ----- But, take an active part.
Think this over, Member ----- Are we right or are we wrong?
Are you an active member ----- Or do you just belong!

Pastor's Message

September is upon us. It's the end of Summer. I think it marks the change of seasons, more markedly than any other. I guess my personal disfavor of September is that it marks the end of summer. And that begins to end for the year one of my favorite pastimes, motorcycling.

But transitions are what we all go through. It may be climate seasons or it may be age seasons or it may be school seasons. We are all entering one season and exiting another one. And that means transitions. What season are you in?

Each year I become freshly excited though because we are coming up to our Annual Meeting. And that means we review the past year and think about and prepare for the next year. We consider new opportunities or perhaps old opportunities with new approaches. It's always about what's new – what can be freshly done in this situation? How can we approach that situation in a slightly different way? We all know that if we do things in the same way all the time, we are likely to get the same results as we've always gotten. And sometimes we need different results.

Jesus spoke about things like this when he used the illustration of old wine and new wineskins (Matt. 9). Old ideas presented in different ways and in different contexts with different applications is what is being referred to here.

Or Jesus spoke of a piece of new cloth sewn as a patch onto an old pair of jeans. The new cloth hasn't yet shrunk whereas the old cloth has already shrunk, numerous times.

New wine is poured into new wineskins. New patches are sewn onto new cloth. New possibilities require some new thinking. And a new season is full of new opportunities and new energy and new plans to go meet them.

I have a new plan and I know it's only new to me. But it will affect all of you who listen to my words. It's a plan to focus my messages on relationships. My primary in that focus is going to be on the relationship we are being called to with Christ, God's Son. Why do I think that is so very important? Well, in Hebrews 1:1-2a, we are told this: *In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.*



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My own relationship with God began about 39 years ago. And it began by me praying and then by me beginning to read the NT. Now I wasn't the only one praying. There were numerous people, who I didn't even know, that were praying for me and that I would enter into a relationship with Christ. I didn't know any of this was going on when I was in the midst of it.

From that beginning it has become extremely obvious to me that all of this Church stuff is completely about a relationship with God's Son, Jesus. And that, of course, filters out into all of our relationship with others. And the Church is to be focused on assisting others to come into a relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

One person stated it many years ago in this way – "it's all about loving God and loving people". That sums it up for me. It's all about relationships.

Thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter and see you in worship.

Your friend in Christ, *Pastor Vern*

"The Bible does not need to 'come alive' and it doesn't need me or any other teacher to bring it to life. The Bible is already very, very much alive. Disconcertingly alive. Destabilizingly alive. If we'll just drill down and listen, we'll discover it has been quite alive for quite a long time. It is we who need to be 'made alive,' brought to life, or whatever."

By Lawson Stone – OT professor @ Asbury Seminary

Advice from An Old Farmer

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.

Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.

Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.

A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered... not yelled.

Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.

Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Live a good, honorable life... Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

Don 't interfere with somethin' that ain't bothering you none.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a Rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.

Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.

If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around..

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

Don't pick a fight with an old man. If he is too old to fight, he'll just kill you.

Most times, it just gets down to common sense.



Annual Meeting Information

Annual Meeting building repair explanation and estimates:

Exterior Painting: First estimate for our church building: \$9940.00 from Wade Sprouse.

His bid for the Parish House is \$5900.00. This bid include materials and labor.

Second estimate for our church also includes all materials and labor, plus caulking of windows, painting or staining exterior entrances (steps and platforms to side doors, back entrance and rear entrance ramp). Cement foundation would also be painted.

Estimate \$7700 using Sherwin Williams 'Resilence' exterior paint. This bid given by Pete Riley, who would also include Parish House for an additional \$4700.00, total \$12400 for both buildings.

Both of these bidders have insurance and very good references and satisfied customers.

Foundation Work: Church: facing building these estimates address left side. We asked for bids on this work based on concerns brought to us regarding floor in our sanctuary. So a little history....both contractors agreed that this work is not critical. Our floor and building is supported by 2ft-by-2ft stone pillars. In other words, our building can shift and still be well supported. The left-hand side is leaning left. We asked MD Excavation, LLC (Stones, who have done work on right-hand side),

for an estimate. After looking it over, they said it was more then they wanted to tackle.

Woodford Brothers estimate \$33,656.29. This includes digging (removing debris), lifting and supporting building, installing 28ft supplemental beam, new supports, new block wall. I have copies of estimate for those of you interested in the details.

The Parish House: scope of work and reason. The back wall of this building (especially the left-hand side) has been an issue for several years. Water is seeping in. We have been running dehumidifiers (emptying daily) to help with the problem, but this is not the long term answer. Two contractors looked at, and gave estimates.

MD Excavation LLC: Would dig & haul foundation spoils away, clean, parge, tar 57ft of foundation wall (window on west around south end to window on the east. Footer drain, sump pump well, outlet to road catch basin. Backfill with stone, sump pump (located outside), electrical hook up. Estimate \$8950.00

Woodford Brothers: Proposed 480sq.ft of WBI Curtain Drain (laymen's term: in my words: After digging down (and removing spoils) along foundation (60ft) and parging done, they would install a curtain which would run next to wall down to the base which would collect and drain water). Sump pump would be located inside with dedicated Electrical outlets.

Electrical work and reason. Our Church electrically speaking is in very good condition. We have only lights, electronics and water heater. The Parish House on the other hand, is in need of an electrical update. For any of you who have used the kitchen will attest too. We have not gotten a written estimate at this writing. But have been promised, to be available by our annual meeting.

In summary: these estimates, are just that: estimates. The details are available to any member that would like them. We all know that prices for repairs will only go up as time goes by, BUT we also know that we do not have the monies to do all this work. Our hope is that during the annual meeting we can discuss and make plans, to address 'our needs' as we move forward. Praying, that all



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reading this material, will give 'it' some thoughts, before we meet on Sept 15th.

Thank you,

Nancy Parkhurst,
Administrative Board Chair

Christian Education

Labor Day is fast approaching and that means the start of classes, so are you enrolled? The adult class will resume on September 8th at the church and they will be studying about responding to God's Grace. The high school students will meet at Linda Springer's house starting in October.

Take this test:

Write down how many hours you watch TV in a day, then times that by 7. A study in 1990 for teens aged between 12 and 17 watched 23 hours of TV a week. By the time a child finishes high school he would have spent 18,000 hours with the TV curriculum and only 12,000 with the school curriculum. (From Quit playing with Fire by Ron Luce).

That was almost 30 years ago, now consider teens with how many hours they are on their cell phones. What things are filling their minds and hearts?



Calendar of Events

Sunday Worship – September 1 @ 10 AM
Sunday Worship – September 8 @ 11AM
September 15 @ 9:30 Brunch at Parish House and Annual Meeting to follow immediately afterwards.
Sunday Worship- September 22 & 29 times TBA

Tues morning prayer – 8:30 @ Pastor Vern's office
Wed. evening prayer – 6:30 @ Ginny Moore's

Men's Group- September 14th and 28th

September 8th- Adult Sunday School @ 9:30
(except high school classes begin in October)

September 8th- Annual reports due to Pastor Vern

September 9th –at 7 pm Admin and Spiritual Bd meet

September 15th-Annual Meeting

September 21st - Women's Fellowship @ 10 AM

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sept 6~ Dale & Margaret Wiltsey

Sept 8~Theresa Chiesa

Sept 8~Ann Ludke

Sept 10~John & Mary Fox

Sept 15~Sean Millett

Sept 21~Betsy Chiesa

Sept 23~Calvin & Kathy Wood

Sept 27~Kelly Balinske