

## Shepherd Tuesday Happenings for September 9, 2008

Dear Shepherdinians and Friends,

We had a good Sunday as the Pastor spoke on John 11 and the evening service was the power of Jesus over evil. It was great as we continue to have Children's Church and some first-time visitors. Ya'll come back again, real soon.

**Just Thinking** -- Several folks had birthdays this past weekend and the Pastor recognized them in church last Sunday.

I was in the doctor's office last Thursday, nothing serious, just routine blood work. The lab technician, who I've known for many years and who knows the challenge of finding a vein that will produce enough blood for her to perform the doctor's tests, looked in my medical record, and noted out loud, "Oh, I see you have a birthday coming up". I wasn't overly thrilled at being reminded or having it announced to all within ear shot.

When faced with my 30<sup>th</sup> birthday, many years ago, I made the decision that I was going to be permanently 29, regardless of the fact that I now have children older than that (explaining it is their problem). I tell people that my mother-in-law is just 12 years older than me and I am 29; over the years she has never disputed that point.

When faced with the prospect of getting a Senior Citizen's discount; I have stopped many young clerks, by telling them, if there is any doubt about my age, if they ask to see my id, I will kiss them squarely on the mouth. So far there have been no takers.

I guess in life we manage to deny or reject the obvious truth that is all around us; but it still doesn't mean that it isn't so. Sort of helps you to understand why "*Jesus wept*" (John 11:35 NIV).

**Board Meeting** – The church board will have its regular monthly meeting at the Pastor's home tonight at 8 pm, right after the Discipleship Training.

**Discipleship Training** – Tuesday and Thursday night @ 7 pm., your choice. Tuesday night will be at Pastor and Mrs. Coleman's home, 225 Charter Oak, Lexington; Thursday night will be at the home of Clarence and Van Coleman, 2840 Dogwood Trail, Lexington.

Would you like to host a session of Discipleship Training? If you live in the Lexington area and have room to seat about a dozen people (Living Room, Dining Room, Den, porch, etc) and will furnish light snacks; you can do it. It only lasts about an hour and you get to know those nice people you met in church. If you are courageous enough to say you will, please contact the Pastor.

**Wednesday night Bible Study** – We will be studying Matthew 25 in our series on the Parables of Jesus on Wednesday night at 7 pm in the church fellowship hall. Guests and snacks welcome.

**Alabaster Sunday** – We will receive our Alabaster Offering on September 21 during the morning service. Check your Alabaster Boxes, while there is still time. Boxes are available in the church foyer; however, checks and cash are always welcome. The Alabaster funds help to plant new churches throughout the world.

**Centennial Sunday** – In honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Church of the Nazarene, on Sunday, October 5, we will join with the other area Nazarene Churches and have a community worship service. The service will be at 6 pm at Columbia First Church of the Nazarene, at the corner of Saint Andrews Road and Kay Street. On this historic occasion, all members are urged to be present and participate. Guest will also find this program interesting and inspiring.

**Help Wanted** – Your church needs your help. There are many jobs available that are necessary to keep a church, even a small one, running. We really need your help in sharing the load. The more people we have involved, the easier it is on everyone. Here are just a few of the opportunities for service available at Shepherd:

**Host Discipleship Training** – (See above) (Low energy, only occasionally)

**Usher** (Male or Female, we are equal opportunity) To seat congregation, insure that all have a bulletin, receive offering, keep things running smoothly during the service. Training is offered. (Low physical effort but requires commitment, if we have enough volunteers, it would only be one or two Sundays a month)

**Offering counters** – As part of a 2 person team, counts offering after the services, records amounts and may make a night-deposit at the bank. Training is available. (Low physical work but requires commitment, if we have enough tellers, it would only be once or twice a month)

**Greeters** – Welcome visitors and members at the door, gives them a bulletin and turns them over to an usher for seating, if necessary. Insures that first-time visitors sign the Visitors book. (Low physical level, high enthusiasm and commitment needed.)

**Nursery Helpers** – Help with care of babies and toddlers during worship service. (Moderate physical level, high enthusiasm and love of children)

**Sign Changer** – Changes the church sign once or twice a month or on special occasions. (Requires bending, squatting and climbing)

There are other opportunities available; if you see a job that needs done in the church and you are willing to do it; let us know.

**More help and prayer needed** – There is another need that I want to address separately. If you cannot fulfill this need, perhaps you know someone that can or you will at least be in sincere prayer that God will lead the right person(s) to us. We have a beautiful piano on the platform; Chris has his guitars and bass; but what you don't see is the electronic drum set, the keyboard and the organ that we have in the storage room, because we presently have no one to play them. It is not just limited to these instruments; we need singers and musicians of all types to rejuvenate our music program. Just pray; the Lord knows the needs.

**Missionary Books** – Have you read your 6 missionary books for this year? If you have not, see Van Coleman.

**Finally** -- The father of the fidgety six-year-old leaned down during the sermon and whispered emphatically, "This is God's house, you **MUST** behave in it".

The little boy climbed up to his Dad's ear and whispered back, "Is it all right if I use God's bathroom?"

From the mouths of kids...See you in Church. Remember; come home to Shepherd where you are family.

*John*

Shepherd Church of the Nazarene

119 Ballpark Rd.

Lexington, SC 29072-2262

(803) 957-4348

[www.shepherdnazarene.com](http://www.shepherdnazarene.com)

Rev. Richard I. Coleman, Pastor

[pastor@shepherdnazarene.com](mailto:pastor@shepherdnazarene.com)