

Shepherd Tuesday Happenings **July 15, 2008**

Dear Shepherdonians and friends,

We had good services and Sunday School this week. Chris filled in for an ailing Joy. We pray for her recovery. It was good to have Jena and Wyatt with us. Wyatt was also under the weather and we hope he feels better. In case you don't know them, Jena is Rev. & Mrs. Coleman's daughter and Wyatt is their grandson. We celebrated the Lord's Supper at the close of the service.

Just Thinking -- A few weeks ago, you may remember, we had Family Camp at the District Campground. There were good services and a good spirit, as usual; but this year was different for us. We had all 3 of our children, 4 of our 6 grandchildren and Savon's mother on the grounds with us during the camp.

There was the normal confusion when we get together, but no big problems. Of course there was the excitement at meal time. "What do they have in the cafeteria?" "Who's got the meal tickets?" "I don't like that!" "Can we go to Pizza Hut instead?" I told Savon it was like a 3-ring circus; we were the ringmasters and the animals were running the show.

It was probably like that after Jesus ascended and left his disciples. "Where do we go now?" "Who's in charge?" "What do we do next?" Then God, always true to His word, sent the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, they listened and the confusion was gone. ("...the Spirit enabled them." Acts 2:4) The rest is history. When we listen, the Holy Spirit will remove the doubt and God's people said, "AMEN".

District Assembly and Conventions – Assembly and conventions start a week from Sunday night (July 27) at Columbia First Church. For a complete list of service and meeting times, see the complete listing on the bulletin board in the foyer or go to the SC District website www.scnazdist.net and click on the District Monthly Newsletter link (on the left). Delegates have been notified and are also listed on the bulletin board.

Bible Study – Wednesday night Prayer and Bible Study is at 7 pm. This week we start our look at the parables, starting with Matthew 13. Visitors and snacks are always welcome. (Note: There will be no Bible study on Wednesday, July 30, so all may attend the District Assembly. The ordination service is that evening, you are encouraged to take part in this

Church Website – Have you checked out the church website lately? You didn't know we had one? Well we do, it has just been dormant for the past few months. Thanks to Chris Rude, it is up and running again. It will be growing in the weeks to come. Why not check it out at www.shepherdnazarene.com .

Reminder – August 3, there will be a change in the Sunday schedule. There will be no Sunday School that morning. However, at 9:30 am, you are invited to a continental breakfast, to meet our new pastor and his family. Morning worship will be at 10 am; then that afternoon at 5 pm, we will start our evening worship services again. You are invited to be there to worship at Shepherd. We will keep you informed of any other changes.

Finally -- A man, very faithful to his church, who had reached the age of 105 suddenly stopped going to services. Alarmed by the old fellow's absence after so many years of faithful attendance the pastor went to see him. He found him in excellent health, so the pastor asked, "How come after all these years we don't see you at services anymore?"

The old man looked around and lowered his voice. "I'll tell you, Preacher" he whispered. "When I got to be 90 I expected God to take me any day. But then I got to be 95, then 100, then 105. So I figured that God is very busy and must have forgotten about me..... and I don't want to remind Him."

Now I know why they haven't been coming!!! See you in Sunday School and Church. Remember, "Come home to Shepherd where you are family."

John

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Shepherd Tuesday Happenings – July 22, 2008

Dear Shepherdites and Friends,

Last Sunday Pastor Bob taught us about understanding God's grace and overcoming handicaps. In Sunday School we joined Jacob as he wrestled with God at Peniel. It was good to have Bob Sprossel back from his Northern vacation.

Just thinking – The other day I got a call from someone asking me how to perform a certain task on their computer. Well we talked and established what needed to be done. Then I guided the person through the necessary steps to make it happen. Once again I proved, no matter what you think, the computer is your “friend”.

I have to admit, however, after over 30 years of experience with computers, sometimes things get too complicated and I have to rely on the instruction books. They will usually give me the steps that I may have missed. I guess it is a sign of the times, but often these books are titled “_____ for Dummies” or “An Idiots Guide to _____”.

There is an instruction book for life; it will give you the steps that you may have left out in order to make your life work right. That instruction book is The Bible. It's simply God's directions to us. Aren't we glad that Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and the others don't live in this age, it might have been called “**B**asic **I**nstructions **B**efore **L**eaving **E**arth for Dummies”?

Bible Study – This Wednesday we continue with the study of The Parables of Jesus; studying Luke 15 this week. Study starts at 7 pm. Snacks and visitors welcome.

This Sunday – This Sunday will be Pastor Bob and Cheryl Albert's last week as our interim pastors. Please let them know how much we appreciate their ministry to us during the past few months. They have been not only a part of our services; they have been a vital part of the Sunday School discussions (and they brought doughnuts).

District Assembly and Conventions – The SC District Assembly and Conventions begin Sunday night and go through Wednesday night. All services and meetings will be at Columbia First Church of the Nazarene, 901 Saint Andrews Rd. (@ Kay Street). Daytime Assembly and Convention schedules are posted in the foyer and at www.scnazdist.net, click on the District Newsletter link.

Sunday, July 27 @ 6 pm -- Sunday School and Discipleship Ministries International (SDMI) Rally with Dr. Jerome Hancock as the speaker

Monday, July 28 @ 7 pm – Nazarene Missions International (NMI) Rally.

Tuesday, July 29 @ 7:30 pm – Assembly Rally with Dr. Nina G. Gunter, General Superintendent; also, the Celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Wednesday, July 30 @ 7 pm – Ordination Service

Starting August 3 – Morning Worship will be at 10 am and Evening Worship will be at 5 pm. This will be Rev. Coleman's first Sunday as our pastor; let's have a great turn-out to welcome him.

“If you feed them they will come – or should it be, “If you feed them they will stay”. Either way we want to get you coming and going on August 3. We will start off with a continental breakfast at 9:30 am; then Morning Worship at 10 am. Following the morning service we will have a covered dish lunch in the fellowship hall. Each family is asked to bring a vegetable and a salad or a vegetable and a desert. The church will furnish the meat. We will also need some tea, sweet and unsweet, soft drinks, etc. Shepherd folks know how to feed and eat; lets remind Pastor Richard and Mrs. Loraine how we do it.

Extra notes that don't fit a category – Here are a few things to think about in the days and weeks to come.

Starting Tuesday, August 5 and Thursday, August 7, we will begin in-home Discipleship Training. We need you to plan to attend either Tuesday or Thursday, not necessarily both. Tuesday's class will be at the home of Clarence and Van Coleman and Thursday's class will be in the home of William and Gail Jones. Maps will be available, with directions to these homes at services on August 3. Both start at 7 pm and are in Lexington. You can choose the one that is most convenient. These classes will be temporary and we will establish a regular schedule to cover Sunday School and Discipleship Training in the near future.

Prayer and Bible Study will continue on Wednesday nights at 7 pm.

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper during the evening service on August 3.

You may contact the Shepherd Board members by going to the “Contact Us” link on the website www.shepherdnazarene.com or you can send an e-mail to board@shepherdnazarene.com. After Pastor Coleman gets moved in, you may contact him through the website or at pastor@shepherdnazarene.com . Thanks to Chris Rude for setting up the website and these communications links.

Finally -- A child was watching his mother sift through and delete a long list of junk E-mail on the computer screen.

“This reminds me of the Lord's Prayer,” the child said.

“What do you mean?” the mother asked.

“You know. That part about ‘deliver us from E-mail.

I'm sure I heard someone mutter an “Amen” out there. See you in Sunday School and Church. Remember; come home to Shepherd where you are family.

John

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