



*Shepherd Tuesday Happenings*  
for March 10, 2009

Sunday we got “stoned” as the Pastor spoke about placing our “Ebenezer”; those that testified that the Lord had brought them safe thus far, received their own rock. Aren’t you sorry, if you weren’t there and glad if you were?

**Just Thinking** -- Do you remember Captain Kangaroo? He had a children’s educational program on TV for many years. Some of you will say that you were not old enough to remember or admit to it.



Captain Kangaroo & Bunny Rabbit



Captain & Mr. Greenjeans

I have to admit, I wasn’t in the Captains targeted age group, but I worked at the TV station that carried his program, so by default, I watched and often enjoyed Captain Kangaroo. Well, the Captain; Mr. Greenjeans; Bunny Rabbit; Grandfather Clock; and all of the other characters have now passed on.

What brought this up was the Pastor using stones to illustrate his sermon last Sunday and people were invited to take them after the service. As I stood at the door a couple of young people mentioned they did not know what to do with the rocks, now that they had them. Overhearing them, I suggested that they make stone soup; which they laughed at. They probably did it to humor the old man, but did not really understand.

That brings us back to Captain Kangaroo. One of the stories he used to read, with illustrations, was entitled “Stone Soup”. It was about some soldiers, returning from battle, with no money and they were very hungry. They asked the villagers for food, but all refused. So they proposed to the villagers, “If you will feed us, we will teach you how to make stone soup”. The villagers were curious and agreed. The soldiers told them to build a fire and place a very large pot of water to boil over the fire, while the soldiers gathered the stones. They then gathered some stones from the creek bed, brought them back and placed them in the pot of boiling water. They then told the various villagers to bring carrots, celery, tomatoes, potatoes, and some chicken. When they each brought their contribution, it was stirred into the water and cooked until it was done. Then everyone took part in the meal, including the soldiers; they had a great time of fellowship as they all enjoyed several hearty servings of “Stone Soup”.



The stones did not add anything to the soup, but it drew the community together and brought about a unity and fellowship. It's sort of like our church; it is basically a "stone" structure. Just as the villagers brought their individual contributions, each of us adds something by our personal contributions within the church. Just like the Stone Soup, it's only when we add all of the ingredients, do the stones become a significant means to draw the community together. *"Freely you have received, freely give."* (Matt. 10:8 NIV)

### **This Week at Shepherd --**

Wednesday @ 7 pm – Prayer and Bible Study  
Sunday @ 9 am – Sunday School/Discipleship Training  
Sunday @ 10 am – Morning Worship  
Sunday @ 4:30 pm – Praise Team Practice  
Sunday @ 5:00 pm – Evening Worship

**Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study** – This Wednesday night we continue our study of the Gospel of John. You are encouraged to read the first 2 chapters and join in the discussion. We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7 pm; visitors and snacks are always welcome.

**Prayer Requests** – It seems like we have been asking you to pray overtime this week, but the need is there and your prayers are requested. In the hospital: Rev. Lanny Shaw, Christopher Henry (baby), Richard Guess and Nellie Drafts (Lorraine Coleman's mother). Please remember the Rev. Cheryl Kammermann, on the staff of Sumter First Church, upon the loss of her daughter, Christa Kearney and her son-in-law, Brian Kearney, in a private plane crash near Atlanta. God knows the need and He answers prayer.

**Easter/Missions Offerings** – It's not too early to start planning and/or giving your Easter offering. We are about \$1500 short of our goal for this year. This is due by the end of May.

**Revival** – You are asked to start praying and inviting people to our revival services, April 26 – 29. We have South Carolina evangelist, Rev. Mickey Smith. Please pray for a good, old-fashioned, Holy Ghost Revival. We need an outpouring of God's blessings.

**Young Adult Bowling Night** – The young adults (under 40) will have a night of bowling fun on March 20<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7 pm. The cost will be approximately \$7 per person, not including snacks. This activity will be at Anchor Lanes, Lake Murray Blvd. in Irmo.

**Need Some Exercise?** – If you are in need of some serious exercise, you are urged to join Pastor Coleman at the church campground in Batesburg on March 30-31 for Camp Work Days. Great fellowship, free lunch and lots of exercise is included.

**Baptism or Church Membership** – Contact Pastor Coleman if you are interested in information about Baptism and Church Membership. He is planning a Baptism service in the near future.

**Other Activities** – Information about the upcoming Biker Retreat, the Work and Witness trip to Panama and Missionary Reading books/CDs is all available in the foyer.



**Finally --** The preacher was wired for sound with a lapel mike, and as he preached, he moved briskly about the platform, jerking the mike cord as he went.

Then he moved to one side, getting wound up in the cord and nearly tripping before jerking it again.

After several circles and jerks, a little girl in the third pew leaned toward her mother and whispered, "If he gets loose, will he hurt us?"

Poor child, we have wireless microphones.

That's all for now, see you in Church and Sunday School. Remember, at Shepherd you ARE family.

*John*

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