



Shepherd Tuesday Happenings

For March 17, 2009

Sunday's was rainy and cool; but it did not discourage many folks that made it to one or both services and Sunday School/Discipleship Training.

Just Thinking -- I usually try to make these thoughts light and/or amusing, but I find it difficult this week. A friend died, other friends lost a child/grandchild, and another friend's brother was seriously injured in a multi-car wreck.

We lifted each of these needs to God in prayer and yet the answer that we had hoped for was not to be. We can rationalize that he is better off now and the child would have suffered all its life. Why does God let this happen?

Maybe we prayed for our expectations or hopes to be done and not God's will. Maybe we did pray for God's will to be done, but deep down we hoped for different outcome.

I have walked with several people to death's doorway and could not realistically describe what was on the other side of that door; I have no doubt that when that door opened, it was God's will and that the Master was waiting on the other side. Jesus tells us in the Bible, *"I'm on my way to get your room ready, I'll come back and get you so you can live where I live. And you already know the road I'm taking."* (John 14:3-4 The Message)

Next week's message will be on a lighter note, God willing.



Clarence & Van Coleman

53 and Counting – Congratulations to Clarence and Van Coleman, who celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on Friday, March 13. It looks like this Friday the 13th was good luck.

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. We announced the incorrect study chapter for this week on Sunday morning. You are encouraged to read the first 4 chapters and join in the discussion. We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7 pm; visitors and snacks are always welcome.



Young Adult Bowling Night This Friday – The young adults (under 40) will have a night of bowling fun on Friday, 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.

Prayer Requests and Updates – God took home two of the people that we have been praying for. On Thursday, **Rev. Lanny Ray Shaw** went to be with Jesus after an extended illness; a memorial service was held at the Church on Monday night. Baby **Christopher Lee Henry**, son of Drs. Anthony Henry and Wendy Sapp & grandson of Dr. and Mrs. Phillip Sapp, passed away on Friday; services were held for him in Georgia on Sunday.

We ask you to continue to pray for **Richard Guess**, who is showing improvement and Loraine Coleman's mother, **Nellie Drafts**. They are both hospitalized. We have received a prayer request for **Curtis Freeman** from the Clinton, SC area, as he undergoes diagnostic test. Please remember all of these families in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank You – To all the Shepherd folks who assisted in preparing the food and the Fellowship Hall for the Shaw family following the memorial service on Monday: Van & Clarence Coleman, Suzy & Bob Coleman, Janet & Larry Ellisor, Lorrie Whitaker, Loraine Coleman and Savon Frierson. The hall was beautifully decorated and the food was appreciated.

Camp Work Days – Pastor Coleman has invited you to join him for some good exercise and a free lunch at Camp Work days on March 30 & 31. Workers can also earn meal credits for Family Camp for each day that they work.

Easter/Missions Offerings – It's not too early to start planning and/or giving your Easter offering. We are about \$1200 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 outpouring of God's blessings.

Faithful Few is Back – Last Sunday we reinstated the Faithful Few program. Here's how it works; each person that participates gives \$2.00 per week. The money in this fund will go toward paying for future revival service and special programs. In addition, each family that participates will receive a paid, 1-year subscription to the denominational magazine, *Holiness Today*. We have successfully used this program in past years and it is a proven winner. Just drop your form in the offering plates and be sure to mark checks or offering envelopes for the amount as "Faithful Few". Forms are available at the Visitor's Desk, from the ushers, or the Pastor.

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.

The **Annual Church Meeting** will be on Sunday, May 3; if you would like to serve in a church office or as an assembly/convention delegate; please sign a form that is available in the foyer or from the pastor.

Finally -- A Sunday School teacher challenged her children to take some time on Sunday afternoon to write a letter to God. They were to bring their letter back the following Sunday.



One little boy wrote, "Dear God, We had a good time at church today. Wish you could have been there."

That's it for this week; see you in Church and Sunday School. Remember, at Shepherd you ARE family.

John

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