



*Shepherd Tuesday Happenings*

April 14, 2009

Dear Shepherdites and Friends,

Easter Sunday was a WOW moment with an almost full sanctuary and Sunday School classes:



It felt so good to declare "Christ has risen" and a sanctuary full of voices responding, "He has indeed".



**The Over 40 Class**



**The Young Adult Class**



**The Youth Class**

**The Children's Class**

**Just Thinking** -- Though I have only seen it on TV and films; it never ceases to amaze me to watch an expert work with a potter's wheel. They seem to just throw a ball of mud on this revolving wheel, using only their fingers and hands, and within minutes have shaped it into a beautiful piece of art.

The other night I was watching a talk show on TV, where a well known super-model was discussing her Christian experience. She referred to herself as a "baby Christian" at the point when she started studying the Bible. She would find passages that reinforced her beliefs at the time and by-pass those that did not fit into her life. She acknowledged that she was trying to mold God to fit her life.

God is the Master Potter, he has molded us in His own image; yet we see people turn around and try to mold Him into what they think He should be. They might say, "Well that passage is just literal" or "That was only for Biblical times". In our Bible studies from John's gospel, just this past week, we saw in John 6:66 where Jesus explained what was necessary for salvation, some of His followers could not or would not accept it and we are told *"From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him."* (NIV)

That old hymn, "Have Thine Own Way" sums it up, "Have thine own way, Lord...Thou art the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me after thy will."

#### **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. This week we will be looking at chapters 7 & 8. Why not plan to join in the discussion? We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7 pm; visitors and snacks are always welcome.



Rev. Mickey Smith

**Revival** – The dictionary defines **revival** as "an awakening, in a church or community, of interest in and care for matters relating to personal religion". We will be in revival with Evangelist Mickey Smith **April.26 – 29**, start praying now that this will be a personal revival for each of us.

**Congratulations** to West Columbia First Church of the Nazarene upon dedicating their new sanctuary last Sunday. General Superintendent, Dr. Nina Gunter dedicated the new building and spoke during the service. Dr. Moody Gunter, retired District Superintendent, spoke on the history of West Columbia First and our current District Superintendent, Dr. Eddie Estep, brought greetings. We again congratulate Pastor Bill Harmon and the congregation of West Columbia First and wish them God's blessings.



West Columbia First



Drs. Moody & Nina Gunter

**Easter Offering** – Easter may be past, but the need for World Missions continues. If you haven't turned in your Easter or Missions offering; it's not too late. Please mark your checks and/or envelopes "Missions" or "Easter". What you give will go toward God's work around the world. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

**Thank you** – To all who have been working on upgrading the computer and video systems.

**Board Meeting** – The monthly board meeting will be this Thursday at 6:30 pm.



**Finally** -- A four-year-old boy who was asked to return thanks before Easter dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. He began his prayer, thanking God for all his friends, naming them one by one. Then he thanked God for Mommy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food. He gave thanks for the ham, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool Whip. Then he paused, and everyone waited ... and waited. After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the broccoli, won't he know that I'm lying?"

Seems like I've heard something like that from the grands. That's all for now, see you in church and Sunday School. Remember, at Shepherd, you ARE family.

*John*

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