

Shepherd Tuesday Happenings – July 29, 2008

Dear Shepherdinianites and Friends,

Well Sunday was a paradox. It was happy in that we had a good service and Sunday School; but it was sad in that it was the Albert's last regular Sunday with us. Chris, Katie, Savon and I shared a meal with them after church and really had a good time. We wish them well in their future ministries; Rev. Bob is in the certification process as a hospital chaplain.

Just Thinking -- Well, we're back to the restaurants. The other night we had a special dinner at a local restaurant. Some good friends are moving from the area and we met at one of our mutually favorite "feeding troughs". We looked forward to reminiscing and swapping promises to keep in touch.

However, there was one big problem; there was a "B" rating posted on the restaurant's front door. In case you do not know, each restaurant in South Carolina is inspected, unannounced, by the state health department (SCDHEC). If there is not an "A" on the door, the inspector found significant evidence that things were not as clean and healthy as they should be. A "B" indicates they were found to be several points less than perfect, but good enough to keep serving. If there is a "C" on the door, don't ask, just get back in your car and head to Mickey D's.

Well this was a "B", so we weren't sure, but after talking to the manager; we decided to risk it and had a great meal. The fellowship was good and we planned for future gatherings.

When God, unannounced, inspects your life, will he find an "A", "B" or even a "C"? Will you be (A) God's good and faithful servant? (B) Will you be found lacking but still able to turn to God for forgiveness? Or (C) have you turned from God, denied Him and been found wanting?

Our restaurant has gotten it's "A" back; and you can get back with God. Just like it says in 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (NIV)

Assembly begins – The District Assembly and Conventions have begun and we hope you will attend all that you can. All night services begin at 7 pm, including tonight (Tuesday). It had been previously announced that the Pre-Assembly service and Lord's Supper would begin at 7:30 pm; this has been corrected.

No Bible Study this week – There will be no Bible study this Wednesday because of the assembly; but we will resume next week with a session on Luke 10.

This Sunday will be busy, busy, busy -- We welcome our new pastor, Rev. Richard Coleman. Starting with a continental breakfast at 9:30 am, then Morning Worship at 10 am. Immediately following morning worship, we will have a pot-luck lunch in the fellowship hall. Then we wrap up the day with our evening service at 5 pm.

Speaking of Sunday lunch – If you can, we still need folks to bring a vegetable dish and a salad or a vegetable dish and a dessert. Meats will be furnished by the church. We could also use tea, sweet and un-sweet, as well as other drinks. If you can't bring food, come anyhow, we want you to join us in celebrating the arrival of our new pastor.

Discipleship Training – There will be two opportunities for Discipleship training which will count toward our Sunday School attendance; everyone is urged to attend at least one session. The first will be Tuesday night (Aug. 5) at 7 pm at the home of Van and Clarence Coleman, 2840 Dogwood Trail, Lexington. The second will be Thursday night (Aug. 7) at the home of Gail and William Jones, 105 Huntsman Lane, Lexington. Directions and/or maps will be available Sunday at the church.

Prayer answered – I ran into Brenda Tweed at the Sunday School Convention and she told me that Wes had come through his medical procedure successfully and should be coming home soon. We thank God for answered prayer. Please remember the Tweed family in your prayers. Wes was a long-time member of Shepherd. Brenda and Wes now attend Midland Valley Church of the Nazarene.

Finally -- When the bus minister stopped the bus to pick up little five-year-old Joey for preschool, he noticed an older woman hugging him as he left the house.

"Is that your grandmother?" The minister asked Joey when he boarded.

"Yes," Joey said, "She's come to visit us for the summer."

"How nice," he said, "Where does she live?"

"At the airport," Joey replied. "Whenever we want her, we just go out there and get her."

Strange, our grandkids say whenever they want us, they check Wal-mart! See you in church. Remember, come home to Shepherd, where you are family.

John

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