

“The Link”

BETWEEN YOUR CHURCH... AND HOME!



A CHURCH FAMILY DISCOVERING
“NEW BEGINNINGS”



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Issue 8

How's Your “Do”?

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.” –James 1:22-25

I appreciate a quote found in the book *“Shaped by God's Heart”* by Milfred Minatrea. He refers back many years to Antoine de Saint-Exupéry who wrote in the early twentieth century. *“If you want to build a ship, don't drum up the men to gather wood, divide the work, and give orders. Instead, teach them to yearn for the vast and endless sea.”* Of course, his reference wasn't particularly to shipbuilding but to almost any task that benefits from copious amounts of passion in hearts of committed adventurers. It is especially relevant to adventurous Christ-followers seeking to obediently build up the body of Christ and minister in their own mission fields.

For many generations the attitude of most western-world Christians, that is those who have migrated out of old Christianized European countries to the New World, have increasingly developed a philosophy of religion that emphasizes the building of beautiful structures with all the conveniences available to them. For obvious reasons this has generated an institutional approach. Day-to-day ministry is defined as that which takes place inside the building for the good and comfort of the members with many and varied programs designed exclusively for Christians. Heavy emphasis is placed on the social aspect of community with many friendly gatherings and informative programs that seek to *“gather wood, divide the work, and give orders.”* There is no limit to food, fellowship, and sharing among the brethren. There are special trips to fun and interesting places, motivational speakers, wonderful music, and semi-annual rallies that are hoped to challenge and reinvigorate insiders who have become complacent.

The unfortunate side to all of this is that in the end, for all of the good intentions, things remain boringly the same resulting in alarming reports of how dead or dying and ineffective our churches have become at spreading the Good News and transforming lives through Christ.

Many older churches with their busy schedules of non-stop programs are in decline, and unless there is a major rethinking of what her purpose is, the church will continue to lose her impact and influence on the secular world that surrounds. As churches *“circle the wagons”* and work harder to protect themselves from contamination and change from outsiders and further their own comfort and Christian culture, those in deepest need of rescue and compassion will likely not find help from the one source that can help them most.

Cont'd on page 2

Every church I have ever been associated with would state that their purpose has something to do with sharing the Gospel with the lost and expanding the kingdom of God on earth. Though not always written out as a mission or vision statement, a high priority is that they covenant to love and care for one another. Obedience to the will and purpose of God is equally important, and a strong allegiance to the Holy Scriptures is an integral part of the whole mix. There is usually a strong and proud conviction in the air when they begin to talk about God's house being a house of prayer. These traits are healthy and biblically sound. However, if we want to be honest about our purpose it is more telling to take an inventory of our actions. The man who says his greatest priority is his family and yet never seems to find time to interact with his children or grow in his commitment to his wife is desperately off course. A business that claims to place the customer number one and yet does all it can to take money from the buyer while offering an inferior product with poor customer support will not be around for the duration.

Likewise, a church may make any number of spiritually sound statements and even fight to defend such opinions, but if a weekly inventory points out that there has been little or no contact with the community in which we live, total prayer offered in the "prayer house" can be counted in minutes, and activities and expenditures are almost entirely for the benefit and comfort of our members, then we should either restate our purpose so it agrees with our reality or redirect our efforts to agree with our statements. It was a wise old sage who pointed out that "*words are cheap.*" There are those in our congregations who have a passion for what is truly the mission at the heart of God. Let's not waste our time, energy, and money drumming up men and women to prop up self-serving programs and activities, nit picking the details of caring for our own ease and prosperity, and barking orders. Instead, let's remind one another that Jesus placed the emphasis on "*go and make disciples*". We are to guide these adventurers to fan into flame the yearning passion for the "vast and endless sea" of wandering sheep without a shepherd. Let's make our "do" match our "say."



go and make
disciples
of ALL nations

Matthew 28:19

August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 7 pm Pastors Search	5	6
7 12:15 Property/ Baptist men 12:15 wmu 5:30 pm Finance 6:30 Bible Study	8	9 7 pm Deacons Meeting	10 6:45 pm Youth 7 pm Business Meeting	11 7 pm Pastors Search	12	13 Church Picnic, 5 pm
14 5 pm Church council 6:30 pm Bible Study	15	16	17 6:45 pm Youth 7 pm Bible Study	18 7 pm Pastors Search	19	20
21 6:30 pm Bible Study	22	23	24 6:45 pm Youth 7 pm Bible Study	25 7 pm Pastors Search	26	27
28 6:30 pm Bible Study	29	30	31			



August 13th at the Pavilion

Set-up at 5pm

Eat at 6pm

Cary Rutledge in concert after the meal

Bring your favorite dish, your friends, families and neighbors!!!!

I've learned....

That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.

I've learned....

That when you're in love, it shows.

I've learned

That just one person saying to me, 'You've made my day!' makes my day.

I've learned....

That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world.

I've learned....

That you should never say no to a gift from a child.

I've learned....

That I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help him in any other way.

I've learned....

That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.

I've learned....

That simple walks with my father around the block on summer nights when I was a child did wonders for me as an adult.

I've learned....

That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

I've learned....

That money doesn't buy class.

I've learned....

That it's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular.

I've learned...

That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

I've learned....

That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.

I've learned....

That when you plan to get even with someone, you are only letting that person continue to hurt you.

I've learned....

That love, not time, heals all wounds.

I've learned....

That the easiest way for me to grow as a person is to surround myself with people smarter than I am.

I've learned....

That everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile.

I've learned....

That no one is perfect until you fall in love with them.

I've learned....

That life is tough, but I'm tougher.

Written by Andy Rooney

Bible Wordsearch

Apostles Chosen

Wordsearch 251

Matt.9:33-10:10

H	B	A	P	O	S	T	L	E	S	S	H	E	E	P
C	I	N	U	T	Y	E	N	R	U	O	J	G	S	E
A	S	U	E	A	D	D	A	H	T	E	A	A	N	T
E	D	I	S	E	A	S	E	I	S	S	M	D	A	E
R	W	E	L	A	E	H	S	U	S	O	E	U	E	R
P	O	T	K	Y	N	C	S	E	H	Z	S	O	L	U
O	R	L	D	O	A	D	M	T	A	E	G	O	C	R
E	C	N	I	R	P	M	A	M	D	A	N	F	H	Z
S	M	A	I	H	E	S	A	L	V	L	I	R	A	E
I	E	O	I	L	T	H	T	T	S	O	H	E	N	B
A	T	L	D	I	E	W	P	I	T	T	C	E	D	E
R	I	M	R	G	E	A	M	E	J	H	A	L	R	D
P	E	I	R	L	N	O	R	O	H	C	E	Y	E	E
Y	P	O	V	N	N	I	H	S	M	S	T	W	W	E
S	H	E	A	V	E	N	K	E	I	J	U	D	A	S

AMAZED	ANDREW
FREELY	APOSTLES
HEAL	CLEANSE
HEAVEN	CROWDS
ISRAEL	DISEASE
JAMES	ISCARIOT
JESUS	JOURNEY
JOHN	KINGDOM
JUDAS	PREACH
PETER	MATTHEW
PHILIP	MESSAGE
PRINCE	SANDALS
RAISE	SHEPHERD
SHEEP	TEACHING
SIMON	THOMAS
SPIRITS	ZEBEDEE
SPOKE	TWELVE
TUNIC	ZEALOT
	THADDAEUS

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

MORE PUZZLES AT:
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Birthdays

- August 2nd- Norma Evans
- August 9th- Trent McDaniel
- August 17th- John Ferron
- August 24th- Steve Primo
- August 25th- Jim Hartberger
- August 28th- Dorothy Harmon
- August 30th- Irene Spangler

? Bible Quiz?

How many animals did God tell Noah to bring into the ark?

- A. Two of each kind
- B. Seven pairs of clean animals and one pair each of unclean animals
- C. Both A and B
- D. None of the above

Answer above the calendar



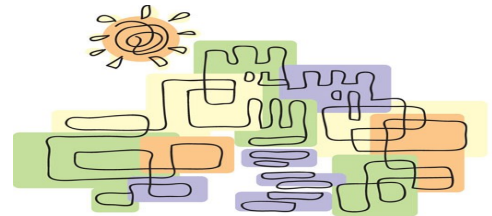
I've learned....

That being kind is more important than being right.



Church Members

- Debbie Board
- James Board
- Edith Bowyer
- Lucille Caniff
- Grover Carter
- Shirley Carter
- Myrtle Ellis
- Jim Ferrando
- Kenneth Gray
- Delmar Hill
- Linda Hill
- Jesse Jayne
- Collins Leftwich
- Agnes McPherson
- Jack & Edna Powers
- Paige Roberts
- Irene Saunders
- Audrey Thompson
- Jimmy & Jerri Wheeler
- Ken & Arlene Wheeler
- Sherman Wheeler



"THE LORD IS MY ROCK, MY FORTRESS, AND MY DELIVERER...."

2 SAMUEL 22:2

A note from the secretary:

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THE SECRETARIAL POSITION PLEASE LET GROVER OR LANA KNOW.

If your birthday isn't listed, please let me know, if it doesn't show up, I don't have it, and if you have anything that you would like to announce in the newsletter let me know, thanks!! Also if you want to receive broadcast messages by phone, if you have address changes, phone numbers and emails, and if I have your email the newsletter can be sent that way!