

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

Why am I here?

It's a question the majority of us will ask at least once in our life..."why am I here?" If you're like me, you've asked yourself this question while experiencing difficulty in life. It's not uncommon to wrestle with questioning our existence, the direction we believe our God is leading us and the purpose behind our existence. An easy answer to this query would be to simply say, "I have been created by God to serve Him." While this is true, it doesn't address the specifics of what we need to be focusing on day by day. Our purpose in life is better defined when we align our priorities with God's priorities. Each and every one of us as Christians have been called by God. We have a 'general' purpose as well as a 'specific' purpose. Our general purpose after being called by God is to be a disciple of his and to promote discipleship among our fellow brothers & sisters. Another common purpose we all share is to preach the Gospel. You may believe it's the preacher's purpose to cover this particular area, but I can assure you, the Great Commission was given to all of us! Each one of us as God's people share the task of presenting the Gospel to a lost and dying world. Yet another purpose given to us by God is the call to love each other. It sounds simple, but can truly being difficult to accomplish from time to time! The love we share with each other needs to be in deed and not merely in word. Jesus reminds us in John 13: 35, "**By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.**" There are those who mistakenly believe that there's a specific formula to follow which will help them determine their specific purpose in life. Sorry to bust your bubble, but it doesn't exist. So what are we to do when seeking our purpose in life? Our purpose in life will be determined as we're living out the calling we've received from God to be a faithful disciple of Christ Jesus and to disciple others. I can promise you: if you can align your priorities with God's priorities, the specific call He has for you will become much clearer!

Have a blessed day and remember the One who gave it to you!

Kevin

Good Morning!

Prayer Requests

- ♥Please keep the following folks in your prayers: Jim Reszler, Sharon Little, Jerry Kerns, Keith Kisner, Edwina Summers, Kim Dumire, the Osborne family, Harold Phillips, Peggy Miller and Noah Miller.
- ♥Prayers have been requested for a neighbor of Rick and Leah Earle. Tom Smith has been transported to West Penn Burn Center after sustaining 3rd degree burns over 90% of his body.
- ♥Tom Little asks that we keep Bruce Goody in our prayers. Bruce is dealing with lung cancer. Bruce has a daughter fighting cancer as well.
- ♥Kim McGuiness is dealing with cancer also.
- ♥Continue to pray for Keith Kisner, Edwina Summers, Kim Dumire, Harold Phillips, Gary Kelley and Kim Osborne.
- ♥Our sympathy is extended to the Sam Oliverio family after his recent passing. This is Bonita DePriest's father. Please keep the Oliverio & DePriest families in your prayers.

News and Notes

- *Whitehall has the privilege of conducting worship services at Pleasant Acres **TODAY** at 2:30 pm. Please come out and spend some of your afternoon encouraging the residents.
- *Harry Summers will be the speaker this evening. He will be sharing news from this year's India Missions Trip. Please join us at 6:30!!
- *Hazel Mock (Jean Phillips' mother) just celebrated her 93rd birthday!
- *Let's thank our chaperones, adult volunteers and teens for another successful year at Work Camp! Thanks to Joel for heading this effort up.
- *Mountaineer Christian Youth Camp: July 19th-July 24th. Applications are located on table outside of library in foyer. Once applications are filled out, please return them to Kevin.
- *If anyone would be interested in donating cookies for church camp, please bring them in and give them to Marsha Sparks by Sunday morning, July 19th. Also, if anyone can help with cooking at church camp, please see Marsha Sparks ASAP.

Congratulations to Kyle Smallwood and Jasmine Donini on their marriage on June 13th!

Also, Congratulations to Stephanie Tonkery & Matthew Stadelman on their marriage this past weekend!