

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

Desire to grow

I asked last week what the 'ideal' church looked like. My prayer is that I challenged you to re-think what goes through your mind as you come to worship God. I proposed a hypothetical question: if a wealthy person donated 1,000,000 dollars to WH, would we know where to invest that money to make the greatest impact in our community? Truth be told, only God—and God alone—changes a human life. Paul reminds us in Philippians 2:13, "For it is GOD who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose." However, let's say a person *did* give us \$1,000,000. I would imagine our first desire would be to design and fund an assortment of church activities and ministries that we believe would help people grow spiritually. Then we would probably encourage as many people as possible to get on board with those activities and ministries. Let's be honest, though. Does increased attendance in ministry programs *automatically* equate to spiritual growth? NO, it doesn't. Although attendance numbers help you determine if people like what you're doing, making people busy in ministry doesn't necessarily equate to spiritual growth. In actuality it burns them out because when they grow weary we usually lay guilt on them for not helping enough. While spiritual activities, programs and ministries give Christians an outlet for service, they don't necessarily help them to grow spiritually. So what DOES help one grow spiritually? One grows by spending quality time alone with the One who created them. How often in your busy schedule do you allow that to happen? Take time today to start spending time alone with the One who adores you and be amazed as to what He wishes to share with you.

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

Good Morning!

News & Notes

- **Area Meetings:** *Creation-Evolution Gospel Meeting* with Dave Everson will be held at the **Tenmile Church of Christ** Sept. 28th-October 1st.
- **Pumpkin Center Church of Christ** with Brent Gallagher: October 5th-10th.
- **Salem Church of Christ** with Paolo Di Luca from the Bridge Street Church of Christ: October 5th-10th. Details on flyers in foyer
- **Christ's Beautiful Bride:** Lessons on the Lord's Church is the theme for this year's Cold Harbor Lectures October 30th-November 2nd. Details on flyer in foyer

Upcoming Events

- **Bonfire /Get-together** - October 4th at the home of Mark & Linda Hawkinberry. More info coming soon!! Everyone welcome!
- **Senior Saints Bible Study** will begin on Wednesday, November 5th at 11:00 AM. Topic of study will be the book of Proverbs. The class will be taught by Kevin Lough. All Senior Saints are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more info, please see Kevin.
- **Ladies Retreat** – October 10th & 11th. This will be at Parchment Valley. If you would like to go, please see Marsha Sparks. All ladies are welcome.

Prayer Requests ♥

- ♥ Kaylyn Lipscomb's kidney stone surgery has been scheduled for Friday, October 17th at Ruby hospital.
- ♥ Please continue to keep Edwina Summers in your prayers.
- ♥ Michael Griffin (friend of Andy Shreves) is dealing with severe infection and is in need of prayer.
- ♥ Joel Boggess has asked that we pray for the Pennsylvania State Troopers as they continue their search for an individual that took the life of a PA state policeman.
- ♥ Mary Titchenell has been dealing with a viral respiratory infection with fever. Keep her, Cliff and the family in prayer.
- ♥ Continue to pray for JoAnn Matheny as she deals with fluid retention, John Conaway (Darrell's brother who has been dealing with infection), Keith Kisner (dealing with cancer & a recent bout with shingles), Scott Anderson who had a recent bowel surgery, Gabby Anderson as she is taking care of Scott, and Victoria Hoffman as she is ill.
- ♥ Keep Kevin & Steven Lough's father in your prayers as he deals with shingles.
- ♥ Prayers are requested for the family that lost their 17 month old baby to an accident on Bunner's Ridge this past week.