

## ~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

### *A horrible death—a necessary sacrifice*

Listen to the Holy Spirit-inspired words of the Apostle Paul in Romans 3, *“But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it- the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.* Romans 3 shares with us the very reason Jesus’ sacrifice was necessary. Apart from the cross of Christ and His atoning death, not one person can be declared righteous. In other words, there is only one way to become a child of God—through the blood of the Jesus Christ! (John 14:6). Good works and moral actions will not earn God’s favor. This inevitable truth remains: every person sins, and a sinner cannot enter the presence of holy God. We need a sacrifice to atone for our sin! The shedding of Christ’s blood on the cross made it possible for anyone to be cleansed of sin thereby creating a relationship with the Creator. The basic requirement to begin our walk with Jesus is by trusting Jesus as Savior and by surrendering ourselves to Him in baptism. You see, for God to be just, He must remain true to His own principles. His holiness dictated that “the soul who sins will die” (Ezek. 18:4). The penalty for sin—namely, death—had to be paid in a way that was acceptable to God. He explained through Moses why a blood sacrifice was required: “For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement” (Lev. 17:11). A life must be given for a life to be spared. On that basis, the heavenly Father provided a perfect sinless sacrifice for all mankind. The only way God’s justice could be satisfied and His holiness could be maintained was for Jesus Christ to take our guilt and sin upon Himself and die in our place. When we say that there is only one way to the Father, we mean that a person must believe Jesus Christ IS the **only** way to the Father. Have you committed your life to Him?

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

#### FREE MARKET

December 6<sup>th</sup> will be the date for our Free Market. This is a tremendous opportunity to show our community Christ in action! We need folks to help set things up, in both the upper and lower fellowship halls. We will also need folks to help out on the 6<sup>th</sup> to greet people, to load vehicles and to assist in helping in general. If you have any questions, please see Faith or Marv Lough.

## Good Morning & Welcome!

### Upcoming Events

**Ladies Sock Exchange/Brunch** will be on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. This will be held at the home of Mary Lough at 10:00 AM. Please bring your favorite breakfast dish and a wrapped pair of socks for the exchange. All ladies are welcome!

**Senior Saints Christmas Luncheon** will be held on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> immediately following the morning service. This is for all seniors age 60 and older. If you have questions, please see Pam Jackson, Marsha Sparks or Dianne Tonkery.

**Eagle Scout Celebration** – Everyone is invited to attend an Eagle Scout Celebration in honor of Ryan Earle on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM here at the church building. Soup will be served in the lower fellowship hall. If you have questions, please see Leah Earle.

**The annual church Christmas party** will be on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> immediately following the evening service. Please bring finger foods. If you have questions, please see Rob Pugh.

## Friends of Edwina Fundraiser “Breakfast with Santa”

We will be hosting a “Breakfast with Santa” Fundraiser on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in the lower fellowship hall. Tickets will be \$10.00 and include: Pancakes, sausage, fruit cups, juice/hot chocolate/coffee. Also included will be games, singing, a craft, the children will make reindeer food to take home and there will be a story time. Please plan to attend this event and all proceeds go to the fund for Edwina Summers liver transplant/medical expenses. If you have questions, please see Mary Lough.

## Prayer Requests ♥

- ♥Please continue to keep Edwina Summers in your prayers.
- ♥Dot Lemon (Sheila Kisner’s mother) will be going to rehabilitation soon. Please keep her and Al in your prayers.
- ♥Continue to pray for Harold Phillips.
- ♥Prayers have been requested for the family of Tom Paynter. Tom was a member of the Central Church of Christ who passed away last week.
- ♥Keep Skip Deligatti in your prayers. Skip has been diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia.
- ♥Keep all the families of our members in your prayers as they travel throughout the holiday season.
- ♥Dave White asks that we keep the family of David Signorilli in our prayers. David