

The Spotlight

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July 2010

Faith... Tested by the Fires of Life

"What a paradox, Lord, as I come to you today:
Real, yet sometimes unreal -
The tension that I feel as faith mixes with fear,
As delight is shadowed by doubt,
As the security of morality in a box
Suddenly falls apart in the fires of gut-level
weakness.
Lord, to believe then that You are here
That Your power is mine...
The possibilities are staggering.
To believe that You are trustworthy,
That you have a pattern for my life,
When that pattern is marred by inconsistency.
To believe that my inadequacy
Can be transformed into selfless caring....
Here's where my sometimes unbelief becomes
The compelling impetus for my prayer.
So, thank you, Lord!...
For You stand on the edge of my faith,
To empower me to go on...
Then, to turn my grumblings into gratitudes,
My self-pity into self-giving.
Take me into the hurts and hopes of others,
To be a light that brightens their path to you."
- Les Pearson

CareFest Complete!

Thanks to all of you who participated in this year's CareFest, and those who supported us with your prayers and gifts. Once again, our gang did an outstanding job! This year we had 27 Salem Road participants and we were joined by 16 brothers and sisters from Hope Summit Church and 4 staff from Crossroads College. We tackled some pretty big projects that included painting about 300-400 feet of curbing, trimming bushes, pulling weeds, spread landscaping rock, shoveling sand and muck out of a pond and preparing the sites to install 11 new outdoor flood light poles. The College was very appreciative of all the work that was accomplished and I'm sure that those of you who participated felt pretty good at the end of the day, knowing that you were on God's construction crew, serving His customers! We hope to see this year's crew and many more next year!

Women's Ministry

The Women's Ministry team is looking for volunteers to be on the committee. If you are interested in caring for the women of the church --- it is the the only requirement!! Please let Jeanette Lorang know!!



Trip to Missouri

Mark Evinger and I spent June 7-11 on a horseback-riding trip at Brush Creek Lodge & Resort in the Mark Twain National Forest in southern Missouri.

Riding Blazer, a 13-year-old Tennessee Walker, and Lacey, a 9-year-old Missouri Fox Trotter, we explored trails in the eastern Ozarks several miles away from the nearest city.

Several Scriptural metaphors came to mind during the trip:

- Covering 550 miles in about 11 hours reminded me of Ezra's acknowledgement of protection by God during a long journey.
- Getting to know Mark better and meeting new people at the camp site reminded me of the description of the "heartfelt counsel of a friend" in Proverbs.
- Having spotty cellphone reception and no access to e-mail reminded me of the admonition in I Timothy to avoid "irreverent babble and contradictions."

Lake Beauty Bible Camp

July 11-15 Trailblazer II
Annika Gustafson, Kate Robinson

July 18-23 Junior High II
Bailey Gillis, Kohl Hanson, Elizabeth Iott,
CJ Lucas, Grant Reimer, Olivia Reimer,
Luke Thornton

July 25-29 Trailblazer III
Joey Gillis, Ashton Hanson, Taylor
Hanson, Sam Reimer

- Learning new horsemanship skills reminded me of being "transformed by the renewing of your mind" in Romans.
- Resting a horse that was weary from the hills and humidity reminded me of Jesus' statement in Matthew, where he says "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden ..."
- Returning home reminded me of the praise in Psalms about a wife being "a fruitful vine" and children being "olive shoots around your table."

-Dwight Boyum



Thank You From Sheryl

Dear church family,

Thank you so much for all your calls, cards, visits, e-mails, meals, prayers, & other helps during this difficult time of surgery & recovery. Your loving care and concern and support mean more than I can say. You are truly a blessing to me & I appreciate your encouragement throughout this journey.

Your sister in Christ,
Sheryl

Upcoming Dates

***What*:** Swim party at Danielsons'

***When*:** Thursday, July 8th - 4-8pm

***Who*:** All the Jr & Sr high kids

***Why*:** Because it is summer!!

We will meet over at the Danielsons' at about that 4pm time (or whenever you can come)... swim til about 6:30pm and then grill some burgers and dogs. *Bring some food to share*. Drinks will be provided. Hope everyone can come! Any questions please talk to the Lorangs - we are the ones planning it!!

August 8 - Church Picnic

Please save the date and plan to join us after church for our annual summer picnic! Look for more details in the August newsletter.

August 22 - Joint Worship Service

Join the Covenant Churches of Rochester as we celebrate friendships new and old through a Bluegrass & Southern Gospel Service. The day begins with a worship service at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome to stay for our BBQ Picnic. Hosted by NewDay Covenant Church, all activities will be on the lawn of the Rochester Area YMCA and if it rains we'll move indoors. We welcome our community neighbors and friends to this special event! Please bring your lawn chairs! **Note: there will NOT be a service at SRCC that day.**

Weddings

Omoleye Roberts & Michael Wolf
on July 10 in Rochester
Parents: Lewis & Rosebud Roberts



July

2 - Steve Douskey
2 - Samuel Reimer
3 - Donna Brass
5 - Al Bergstrom
7 - Sarah Novinger
12 - Alice Zerbe
13 - Larry Edmonson
16 - Tricia Bredeson
16 - Nancy Naatz
20 - Dave Mosbo
21 - Barry Novinger
22 - Ben Gustafson
23 - Melissa Gillis
27 - Ashton Hanson
27 - Taylor Hanson
28 - Rosebud Roberts

July Anniversaries

5 - Larry & Nga Edmonson
5 - Jim & Sharon Hopkins
10 - Mike & Arwen Gustafson
12 - Harry & Nancy Naatz
13 - Shawn & Danielle Hanson

Set Up

4 - Reimer
11 - Robinson
18 - Stewart
25 - Therneau

Ushers

Reimer
Hanson
Therneau
Engstler

Greeters

4 - Driscoll
11 - Lewis
18 - Bjaastad
25 - L. Roberts

Nursery

Lucas
Iott
Johnson
Hanson