

August 15, 2010

pastor's pen 

Sometimes I imagine what it was like to have been one of the Apostles. I imagine what it was like to know him, to spend time with him, to be known as his friend. Would he laugh at my jokes? What was his favorite food? Did he chew with his mouth open? Was he a lefty? Would he be taller than me? Could he roll his tongue?

I forget a lot that Jesus was an actual person. Flesh. Blood. Sweat. Hair. Farts. And he knew people. He had a family and friends, just like us. He had people that loved him and people that hated him, just like us. But he was special. He healed people. He gave a blind guy vision. He brought a kid that was dead back to life. I can't even fathom what it was like to see that stuff for the first time. Not read about it, not hear about it, but to *see it*. To witness it. To be there. To know what Lazarus smelled like when he came out of the tomb. I envy those apostles. A lot.

And what is it going to be like when Jesus returns? None of us can even begin to comprehend what that moment will be like, when we see Jesus face to face, in all the fullness of who he is, the creator of the universe. The word "imagine" somehow falls short of what that will be like.

But listen to what Jesus tells his disciples in John 16:7. *"But it is actually best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Counselor (the Holy Spirit) won't come."* (NLT). Jesus tells his disciples, who know him, who have seen him with their own eyes, that it is *best* for them that he leaves them. It will be better for them to have him

gone and be replaced by the Holy Spirit. According to Jesus, having the Holy Spirit with us is better than having Jesus with us (at least for now).

I don't know about you, but this is convicting to me. For me, unfortunately, many times the Holy Spirit is an afterthought. It's like third-string God or something. I get envious of the Israelites of the Old Testament, those who saw incredible things in the time of Moses, but the truth is, they're envious of us. God's Spirit is with us, all the time. God's Temple, a.k.a., where He lives, his address, is within us, those who believe. The same Spirit that flows through Christ, that created the universe, that rose from the dead, flows through me. It flows through you.

What are you going to do today? Somehow, where we're going for lunch or what game is on TV is not really that important, is it? We will see Jesus face to face one day, and how amazing that will be. But we do not have to wait to experience his Spirit within us and extend it to others. Imagine what that would be like.



WCV will be having an **Open House on Thurs, Aug. 19, - 3:30-6:30 pm**. See the new therapy room, a new patio area, a new expanded parking lot and new landscaping in the front of the building. A new sign identifies the building. Stop and see the many improvements.

Speaking of landscaping, **we need volunteers to help us do some weeding** before our Open House. Please call Jim Gorby @ 444-3616 if you can help us out. Thanks.



FOOD4ALL

Important FOOD4ALL Update: We have received notice from FOOD4ALL that there will be no orders accepted for the months of August and Sept. as they are working through issues with the current shipping company. Orders received for the month of August will be refunded. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and will provide additional updates as they are available. Contact Mike Bochart or Ed Taylor with questions. Thanks.

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Beth Moore Ladies Bible Study: We have had a great response to the registration for the Beth Moore Daniel Bible Study. So much that we have incorporated an evening Bible Study as well. Already we have over 30 ladies signed up for Tuesday and Saturday classes. And there is always room for more! This is a 12 week study of the Book of Daniel. **Dates:** Tuesday afternoons, August 24th through Nov. 9th from 12:30 – 2:30 pm, Tuesday evenings, same dates, time yet to be determined, and Saturday mornings, August 28th through Nov. 13th @ 9:45 am. Register today! Cost: \$20. See Marilyn MacDonald with questions (444-4973) or e-mail her at macgran7@yahoo.com or call the church office (444-2550).

Washington Christian Nursery School News: We still have some openings in our Thur./Fri. PM 3's Class. We will be starting soon so call Natalie Carr @ 241-5681 to get your child registered.

Baby Congrats! Congratulations go out to Brandon & Amber Kamp on the birth of their 2nd child, a boy, born June 2nd. Brady Michael weighed in at 5 lbs. 8 oz. and was 18 in. long. Brady was welcomed home by big sister Aubree. The Kamps live at 704 Simon St.

Volunteer Help Needed: The Tazewell County Retired Teachers Dinner will be held @ WCC on Mon, Sept. 13th in our F.H. and they are In need of a few volunteers to help serve and clean up. Volunteers would be needed from 11 am to around 2 pm that day. Last May they held their dinner here and donated over \$300 in proceeds toward our Fellowship Hall Acoustic Fund. Their intent this year is to do the same with their proceeds. Please consider helping out. Contact Judy Vaughn (444-2801) or Jan Geisz (745-8440) if you can help.



All ladies are invited to the **Circle of Friends' Salad Supper** on Thurs, August 26th at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Please come join the fun and bring a salad to share! There will be a sign up in the Fellowship Hall at a later date.

Please mark your calendar for the upcoming **Ladies Retreat!** It will be held on Sept. 17-18th, at Camp Griesheim again. It will be a time to refresh, renew and reacquaint ourselves with our fellow sisters in Christ. Mark your calendar now, for the "REAL Divine Ya-Ya Sisterhood" event you won't want to miss!! More details to follow!

On July 29th, 26 ladies of all ages consisting of WCC members, friends, and family gathered at "Fired Up" in Peoria Heights to create a variety of ceramic masterpieces. The chattering and painting paused briefly to allow each "artist" to enjoy pizza and snacks. Painted items were baked/glazed and finished products picked up on Aug 8th. If you missed the fun, join us for our Salad Supper on Aug. 26th. You

might see some of the pottery we made on the salad buffet line!



Choir to Start Up: We will begin rehearsals next Sun, August 22nd at 4:30 pm in the auditorium. This group is open to anyone High School age and up. See Ed Taylor or Ben Browning with further questions.



Offering, 8/8:.....\$6,591.30
 YTD offering:\$257,317.27
 Gen. Fund exp YTD:\$261,533.89
 Sunday School offering:.....\$44.00
 Sunday School attendance:118

Workers Today (8-15)	
SS Nursery	C Getz, S Gerth
Wor. Nursery	Bishoff's / Young's
Kings Kids	C Powers / C Fitzgerald
Wee Worship	K Clang, A Hill / Robertson's
CARE Ministry	M Bochart, R Nelson / Getz's
Greeters	Vaughn's / Wilson's
Deaconess for August: Jan Geisz & Judy Vaughn	

Workers Next Week (8-22)	
SS Nursery	Burton's
Wor. Nursery	Shawgo's / Getz's
Kings Kids	L Born / G Browning
Wee Worship	T Doremus, K Bochart / C Fitzgerald, F Keehma
CARE Ministry	R Mason, BNordhielm / MBeebe
Greeters	Hackett's / Zotz'z
Deaconess for August: Jan Geisz & Judy Vaughn	
Communion Prayer: Dennis Robertson	
Offering Med: Larry Howard / Wally Born	



HOSPITAL: Karen Patterson – back surg. - Amy Sinn's friend; Mike Smithee – surg; Carolyn Sneed – liver transplant - Marilyn Brown's sister; Michelle Lashbrook – Christine Jarrett's sister; Shirley Cloud – kidney failure – Marlene Robison's friend;

AT HOME: All of Our Missionaries; Our Leaders and our Men & Women in the Armed Forces; Mike Spain/family - Judy Spain's son; Al Dunham; Christian Harr - MacDonald's nephew; Edna Gold - Norma Sinn's mother; De Hamilton; Alyssa Brucks -

Jane Youngs granddaughter; Jane Young; Mary Geisz – Stan's ex-sister-in-law; Erma Kemper; Tony Smithee; Bryan Beebe; Jere - Leona Stiltz's nephew; Sally Stout - Taylors' friend; Mary Snyder; John Tucker - Bill Groff's brother-in-law; Carl Johnson; Eugene & Margret Shurts - mission trip - Ruth Belmonts parents; Susan–Rick Mason's sister-in-law; Edith Buttrum - Amanda Sander's grandma; John & Sally Schaffer - Shanna Gerth's parents; Bev Haselhorst - Kara McClintock's friend; Doug Meeks dad; Lexi Helfrich – Milestone's friend; Kim Wade – Christy Archdale's friend; Ernie - cancer – Sinn's friend; Bob & Liz Chaney; Katie Peters – Amanda Sander's friend; Brandon Hill; Dorothy Olson – health – Jane Young's friend; Bob Kennedy – cancer-Howley's friend; Deb–cancer-Sue Volz's sister; Joanna Frost – cancer–Howley's friend; Ben Powers – cancer/heart prob; Liz Noe – med. probs – Amanda Sanders friend; Denise Welch–heart prob – Jennifer Fisher's mom; Janelle & Jennifer - Eleanor Tripp's granddaughters; Don Schertz – cancer – Miles; Mignonette Wise; Devon Kepfner – Brooke Wagner's friend; Gary Fitzgerald; Donna Wilcoxon – surg. recovery / Brenda Smith & family – husbands job - Cara Fitzgerald's friends/co-workers; Robyn Eaton – Clang's friend; Kyle Lee – Hodgkins lymphoma – WCHS student; Vera Miner – Marlene Robison's sister; Brenda Oedewaldt – back pain; Susie Daffron – dementia & Rowan Bartell-her caregiver - Carolyn Blacks mom & sister; silent request – marriage/finances; Juanita McCollum; Larry Howard; Donna Newberry – tests; Bill Fore – starting radiation; Melissa Smith – health concerns – Howley's friend; Archdale/ Patterson family and business decisions; Debbie Walkers mom; Curt Hill – chest pains – tests – Kathy Clang's son; Dean Kukuck – ruptured Achilles – Dawn Peterson's dad; Sharon Peterson – shingles – Steve's mom; Mike Herz – stroke - vision probs – Jess Bochart's uncle; Jacqueline Landreth – Bambi's daughter; Robin Tessier – job situation – Kim Taylor's sister;

SHUT-INS: Margie Bess - Snyder Village; Virginia Alig - Snyder Village - Mary Snyder's Mom; Gwen Kubley; Juanita McCollum; Sara Siever - WCSupported Living - Rm#1230; Lucile Post; Gloria Berlett; Louise Thurman - Bob Thurman's mom - WCSupported Living;

Myra Snyder – Tony Snyder's sister-in-law;