

Pastor Ray's Ramblings:



Natural disasters bring out the best and worst in people. The hurricane damage in Houston and Florida witnessed many individuals bringing in their personal watercraft, many from other states, to help in the rescue of countless individuals stranded and endangered by floodwaters, at their own expense. Many other individuals, rich and poor, from all races showed that helping others trumped their social/economic and racial differences. Many businesses gave food, water, and shelter to rescuers and rescued alike. And of course, as always there were the lowlifes who looted, gouged and in any way possible took advantage of the already hurting people. In Mexico City after the earthquake, specialized rescue units made up of people of smaller stature, crawled through tiny openings in the debris of fallen buildings, looking for any signs of life. This is of course terrifying and incredibly dangerous work for any shift in debris, aftershock etc. would crush them instantly or trap them in a tight space where there is no escaping. These rescue specialists are known as Topos or “moles”. Rich people and poor people alike are putting aside their distinctions and working together to save lives and help the rescue effort. Perhaps this is one of the reasons God allows these disasters to happen. People voluntarily become the kind of people they should be everyday to others, but are not until disaster happens. The normal existence of privacy, insularity, and self centeredness gives way to acts of altruism and genuine compassion. There will be stories emerging from there as well about negative elements. But in all these situations we can be inspired by what good people do.

In every human organization, from large ones like cities, towns and neighborhoods to little ones like families and churches, we are provided a vivid example of what people

should be and what they should not be. The church is a “rescue mission” created by the Holy Spirit to work as a cooperative team, selflessly setting aside differences and sacrificially offering itself up to save and bless the lives of those around who are in danger of perishing when they are left to fend for themselves. There are those who seek for the church to be a blessing and there are those who look only after their own interests. We are challenged to be the good people, a team with one goal in mind: Bringing the “Gospel of Jesus Christ and all that entails to touch the lives of others.” Kind of like “CONGO” (ChristiansONtheGO)!

Welcome to Our New Members in 2017:

We have been blessed to welcome several new members in the year 2017.

In January, we welcomed Kayla Robeck.

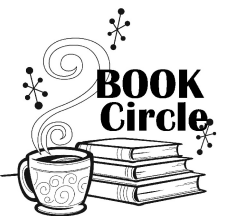
In April, we welcomed Kurtis & Morgan Harrington and Don & Sue and their daughter, Jacqueline Harrington.

In October, we welcomed Bernie & Lissa Denney, Ron & Gail Graeser, Gordon & Linda Oosterhouse and Jeff & Susan Stewart.

On Sunday, October 1 we will be serving cake at Fellowship Time to welcome our fourteen 2017 New Members.

Book Circle:

Book Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 17 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Christie Pollock. If you need direction call Christie or Bev Williams. Jill Sondeen will be reviewing “Pale Rider: The Spanish Flu of 1918” by Laura Spinney.



Flu Shots:

On Wednesday, October 11 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Flu Shots will be administered by the District 10 Health Department in Fellowship Hall. No appointment needed.



Harvest Ingathering:

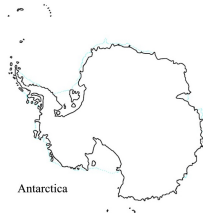
Beginning October 8 after church, Women's Fellowship will be sponsoring our Harvest Ingathering once again. Please plan to donate to this worthy cause in one of two ways: 1) Bring a check made out to True North with Food Pantry on the memo line. There will be a basket for checks on our food collection table in fellowship Hall. True North will use your money to buy food in bulk and other less expensive ways. 2) Bring canned and boxed food items to Fellowship Hall and place them on the table provided. A good time to purchase some of these items is during the Spartan sale.



Let's see if we can fill up our table to overflowing! Jack Butterick will deliver food and checks to True North in mid November. Thank you!!!

Social Gathering:

On October 9 at 6:30 p.m. Faith Fishman will share experiences and pictures of her trip to Antarctica. This should be an interesting armchair trip to a part of the world that not many people travel to.



Please join us in Fellowship Hall for cider and donuts, and find out about life on this continent at the bottom of the world. Bring your friends!

ANNUAL MEETING - October 15, 2017

Announcing "ConGo Enjoy-Meant" Events

We are "ConGo" (Christians on the Go) and **meant to go and enjoy** good food and fun activities together!

"Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Neh. 8:10

"Go and enjoy":

Saturday, October 7 "Congo-Q" with Professional Barbequer MarkWestcott ("Smokin' Good Time BBQ") - A **"Just for Fun"** competition will be held for bar-b-quers and grillers. The winner will receive the coveted "Congo-Q" statue. But others who come can partake of some delicious pulled pork bar-b-que prepared expertly by Mark. A donation will be taken to cover the cost of the meat. All extra will go to the church's outreach ministry (Board of Charitable Giving) to help those in need. Mark will begin the day with a bar-b-que tutorial for all interested. Also, there will be some great entertainment! This every is open to the community. Those that would like to compete will need to bring your own grill and meat. Tutorial begins at 9:00 am. Grilling begins at 10:00 am. Eating and entertainment start at 1:00 pm. For more info or **to register** call Mat Emerick at 231-414-7501.



October Birthdays

- 2 Jean Morse
- 9 Lorene Witte
- 13 Jonathan Tuuk
- 14 Miles Cowles, Jr.
Miles Cowles, Sr.
- 16 Leah McKivitz
- 21 Justin Pullman
- 22 Pat Dekleva
- 28 Lauren Zeerip
- 29 Sally DeShetler

October Anniversaries

- 8 - Guy & Raene` Redinger
- 17 - Gary & Jaime Deuling
- 28 - Bob & Bonnie Erber



