

FALL SCHEDULE:

Aug. 26th – Sep. 23rd – “How to enjoy your life” Sermon series
September 9th – Sunday school starts
September 9th – Combined service with Living Hope & Relevant Word
September 16th – Progressive dinners
Sep. 30th – Nov. 11th – “Beautiful Outlaw” Sermon series
October 1st – 7th – Bible study groups launch
October 6th @ 8am – Men’s Breakfast at Cracker Barrel on Academy & I-25

SERMON NOTES:

#1 - I need a perspective to live from - Phil. 4:12 "Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel."

#2 - I need a priority to live by - Proverbs 3:6 "In everything you do, put God first and He will direct you and crown your efforts with success."

#3 - I need a power to live on - Phil. 4:13 "I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me."

#4 - I need a purpose to live for - Phil. 4:21 "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain."

VOLUNTEERS TODAY

Worship Hour Nursery: Diane Sanford and Beth Sharp

Ushering: Gordon and Sonja Snyder

Snacks: Gordon and Sonja Snyder

Coffee Set-up: Mark Miller

Counting: Peter Hilts and Susan Miller

Closing: Mark and Susan Miller

OUR STAFF

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FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

Sunday, August 26th, 2012

How to enjoy your life

If there is one thing all of mankind has in common, then it is the desire to enjoy life. Men have pursued joy in every avenue imaginable. Some have successfully found it while others have not. Perhaps it would be easier to describe where joy cannot be found: Not in Pleasure -- Lord Byron lived a life of pleasure if anyone did. He wrote: "The worm, the canker, and grief are mine alone." Not in Money -- Jay Gould, the American millionaire, had plenty of that. When dying, he said: "I suppose I am the most miserable man on earth." Not in Position and Fame -- Lord Beaconsfield enjoyed more than his share of both. He wrote: "Youth is a mistake; manhood a struggle; old age a regret." Not in Military Glory -- Alexander the Great conquered the known world in his day. Having done so, he wept in his tent, before he said, "There are no more worlds to conquer." Where then is real joy found? -- the answer is simple, in Christ alone. The good news is that God has given us the recipe for a joy-filled life and in our new series we are going to discover the biblical formula for enjoying our lives! --Pastor Naas

Ten rules for happier living:

1. Give something away (no strings attached).
2. Do a kindness (and forget it).
3. Spend a few minutes with the aged (their experience is a priceless guidance).
4. Look intently into the face of a baby (and marvel).
5. Laugh often (it's life's lubricant).
6. Give thanks (a thousand times a day is not enough).
7. Pray (or you will lose the way).
8. Work (with vim and vigor).
9. Plan as though you'll live forever (because you will).
10. Live as though you'll die tomorrow (some tomorrow you will).

Smile Train

Pastor Naas wants to thank everyone who donated so generously to his charity of choice. He has raised \$260.00 and as a result one child has been helped to receive a cleft palate surgery! What a blessing to make a difference!

What robbed him?

An old man was asked what had robbed him of joy the most in his lifetime. He replied, "Things that never happened!" Someone has cited these three keys to happiness: 1) **Fret not**- He loves you (John 13:1), 2) **Faint not** - He holds you (Psalm 139:10), 3) **Fear not** - He keeps you (Psalm 121:5).

Give the gift of a book!

Christina Martinez-Williams, daughter of Rich and Tina Martinez, is building her new math classroom library. Incorporating literature into math can be used both as a tool to teach the concepts and as a way to connect math to other disciplines and the real world. Christina is starting as a full-time teacher at Maya Angelou Academy, which is a high school for adjudicated males who are serving their time. You can visit this link to learn more about it: <http://seeforever.org/the-schools/maya-angelou-academy>

One of the co-founders of her school, under the **See Forever Foundation**, was quoted as saying that those who need the best education the most deserve the best, by way of resources, etc. These scholars live in a facility called **New Beginnings**, which perfectly describes the journey Christina and others want to help them walk. Help Christina provide the best for her scholars by purchasing one of the books in her wish list and help her make math relevant and connect to real-life. You can send the book directly from Amazon as her address is embedded in the site. She gladly welcomes, and even recommends, good-condition used books too!

The Amazon website address is: <http://amzn.com/w/ZU503G1R39OU>

The happiest people are those who help others

A fascinating study on the principle of the Golden Rule was conducted by Bernard Rimland, director of the Institute for Child Behavior Research. Rimland found that "The happiest people are those who help others." Each person involved in the study was asked to list ten people he knew best and to label them as happy or not happy. Then they were to go through the list again and label each one as selfish or unselfish, using the following definition of selfishness: a stable tendency to devote one's time and resources to one's own interests and welfare--an unwillingness to inconvenience one's self for others." (Rimland, 'The Altruism Paradox,' *Psychological Reports* 51 [1982]: 521) In categorizing the results, Rimland found that all of the people labeled happy were also labeled unselfish. He wrote that those "whose activities are devoted to bringing themselves happiness...are far less likely to be happy than those whose efforts are devoted to making others happy" Rimland concluded: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." (*Ibid*, p. 522). *Martin & Diedre Bobgan, How To Counsel From Scripture, Moody Press, 1985, p. 123.*

A great opportunity to serve...

Dear Faith members and friends, we ask that you please join in our outreach to the homeless in our city by helping us collect enough toiletries to hand out to 300 people at the "Service in the Park" on Sunday, September 9th in Acacia Park. Please bring all the toiletries that you can this month. You can take a copy of the list of needs by the boxes in the Narthex. We have collected toiletries for about 20 thus far and our goal is to serve 300. We will also gratefully accept checks made out to church (mark "9/9 Service" on the memo line) so that we can shop for all the items we have promised to supply for this important event. Are you a garage sale fan? Please look for sleeping bags, baby strollers and those items listed on the bottom of the list of needs page in the next few weeks. The deadline for all donations is: **Sunday, September 2nd**. Please begin to pray now for 9/9. Pray that our service may be pleasing to God as we share his love with the neediest of souls. Got Questions? Contact: Nancy Stromer on 488-9590.