Parson to Person

Someone sent me the following email. The man whispered, "God, speak to me" and a meadowlark sang. But the man did not hear. So the man yelled "God, speak to me" and the thunder rolled across the sky. But the man did not listen. The man look around and said, "God, let me see you." And a star shined brightly. But the man did not notice.

And the man shouted, "God, show me a miracle" and a life was born. But the man did not know. So, the man cried out in despair, "Touch me God and let me know you are here." Whereupon God reached down and touched the man. But the man brushed the butterfly away and walked on.

Don't miss out on a blessing because it isn't packaged the way you expect. That's the email's message. God reveals his Spirit among us as we journey to the cross. Beware of determining in advance the "packaging" of that spirit. God is ever present in ways we rarely comprehend. His spirit is found in moments of reconciliation and in times when children ask great questions. God's spirit is present when nature unfolds its wonder and beauty declaring its consistency. God's spirit is present in hands folded for a blessing in a restaurant. Many times we miss God's spirit because we anticipate its packaging.

I believe we miss God's presence in the judgments I find being executed in the world. Fightings and quarrels happen with regularity and both groups on either side of an opinion claim that they have the truth and that they are right. People gather themselves into groups today and see some on the "inside" and others on the "outside." If some are on the outside there are those who judge them unfit or unworthy to render opinions because the "in" crowd is "in charge." Right and wrong seem to be wrestling with each other. There is a third reality and it is missed because of its packaging. Faith is more vital than right or wrong. Faith preaches that people can be at odds with each other and faith is the key to helping both. For me, my thoughts are formulated by the Bible. To some on the "in" the Bible is "out." Nothing could be farther from the truth. The Bible and the cross center our faith in Jesus Christ. The church's teachings center people on the love of God. The hymn writer says and then sings: "Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with chords of love that cannot be broken."

The church models for the world how people can be bound by love no matter what. John Wesley once said, "If your heart is as my heart (committed to Christ); let us put side our differences and walk together. Let's pay attention to what God is doing in the world and in each of us.
-Ken Timmerman

What Do YOU Give Up for Lent?

It's a good discipline during the season of Lent as we focus on a journey to the cross. I think that churches need to give up things for Lent. More to come… -Ken

Holy Communion Schedule

Sunday Worship-8:30 & 11:00am:
Jan. 6, Apr. 7, Jul. 14, Oct. 6
Sundays at 9:30-9:45am:
Feb. 17, Mar. 17, May 19, Jun. 16, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Nov. 17.
Special Dates:
Apr. 18 or 19, Dec. 24

Wednesday Night Supper

Join us Weds. night for supper at 5:30pm! This week's menu (Feb. 13): Baked Pork Chop, Collards, Black Eyed Peas, Cream Style Corn, Salad Bar, Dessert, & Beverage; $6 Adult, $4 Child, $20 family max. No sign ups needed!

Sermon Series:
What the Bible Doesn't Say

Feb. 17: "God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle"
Feb. 24: "God Said It, I Believe It, That Settles It"
March 3: "Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin"

Our Calendar

Sunday, February 10
8:30am Trad. Worship Service (Sanctuary)
9:30am Coffee Time (Asbury Hall)
9:45am Confirmation Class (MC019
9:45am Sunday School (Classrooms)
11:00am Anew Worship (Wesley Hall)
11:00am Trad. Worship (Sanctuary)
3:30pm Refuge Youth Mtgs. (Youth rooms)

Monday, February 11
10:30am Prime Timers Exercise (Wesley Hall)
6:30pm Emmaus Reunion Grp. (Prayer Room)

Tuesday, February 12
10:00am Staff Meeting (MC106)
12:10pm Taize´ Service (Sanctuary)
5:30pm Al Anon (Parlor)
6:00pm Planning Mtg. (MC106)
6:30pm Boyscout Meetings (classrooms)
6:30pm Tuesday Worship (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, February 13
6:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast (Asbury Hall)
9:30am Walking Group (Wesley Hall)
9:30am Weds. AM Bible Study (MC106)
10:30am Prime Timers Exercise (Asbury Hall)
5:30pm Fellowship Supper (Wesley Hall)
6:00pm Youth Choir (Choir Room)
6:15pm Bible Art Journaling (MC106)
6:15pm A Generous Orthodoxy (MC003)
6:15pm VBS Crafting (Craft Room)
6:15pm BreakOut (Room 209)
6:15pm H.S. Youth Studies (MC015)
6:15pm KidsWay (Preschool Hall)
6:15pm M.S. Youth Studies (Youth Room)
7:00pm Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)

Thursday, February 14
9:00am Shepherd's Ctr. Classes (all areas)
2:30pm Prime Timers Cards (Asbury Hall)
6:15pm Girl Scout Troop 1688 (154/155)
6:15pm Girl Scout Troop 2207 (204/205)

Friday, February 15
7:00am Centering Prayer (Prayer Room)
10:30am Prime Timers Exercise (Wesley Hall)

Saturday, February 16
12:00pm Celebration Luncheon (Asbury Hall)

Prayer Requests:

Sympathy:
Please keep these families in your prayers:
-Chrisie Pendergrass' great uncle, J. Bradford Seale, Jan. 30.
-Katy Handell's grandmother, Sue Jackson, Feb. 1.
-Barbara West's mother, Georgia Knight, Feb. 1.
-Lindsey Woolley's grandfather, Rev. Kirk Hendricks, Feb. 6.

New This Week:
Susan Matthews-mouth surgery 1/21
Tracy Athey-shoulder surgery
Buddy Brewer-shoulder surgery 1/18

Continue to Pray For:
Anne Epting-Luekemia 12/17
Mary Taylor-shoulder surgery 12/5
Eloise Crouch (Chuck Crouch's grand-mother-cancer
Danny Young-cancer
Pat Bickel-chemo treatments
Alice Hott-health concerns
W.T. Scruggs-cancer
Clyde Smith-cancer
Sandra Anderson-health concerns
Laura Beck-healing
Pat Bickel-cancer
Military Troops and their families

Our Homebound/Health Facility Members:
Gina McCuen, Nona Jacobs, Edna Moore, Warren Scoggins, Bennie Powell, Bobbie Goldin, Ken Robb, Edith Worthy, Bill & Peggy Lott, Marie Schuster, Robert & Ella Scoggins, Dolores Gatch, Reta Richardson, Dr. Albert Thomas, Jean Barbour.