

New Ministry Planning Session is Scheduled for Tuesday Night

Over the last year, the Lord has been working on me to begin a new ministry for our church and community. I can't remember exactly when, but I began to get a sense that we as individuals we needed to start preparing ourselves. I was led to various resources and discovered a world of people that do prepare for worst case scenarios. Some, worry that a natural disaster might hit.

Some worry about economic collapse. Some worry about other more complicated scenarios. As I pondered, read and prayed about this, the Lord gave me a name for this ministry: COPE (Christian Outdoor and Prepper Enthusiasts)

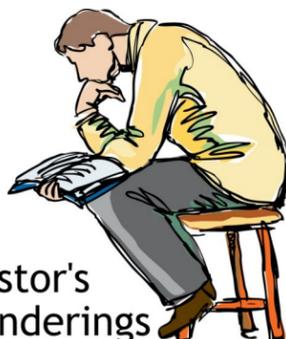
I began to talk with some folks in the church and the community and feel that now is the time to sort of bring this ministry initiative online. This Tuesday night, there is going to be a brainstorming session that begins at 6:30 pm in the church fellowship hall. We are going to see how we might formulate a ministry that could reach out to two distinctive, yet in some cases, overlapping groups.

One group is outdoors men and women. I've heard the hunting stories from many of you. I know that in this community outdoor activities take on many forms from hunting to camping to hiking. I believe that there is a ready built group of individuals that might like an opportunity to gather around an outdoor theme and study the Bible and discuss their outdoor adventures and maybe even plan outings.

The other group is Preppers. Now I know for many this has some negative connotations. Yet, if you think about it, many of our parents from the Great Depression were Preppers. They planned ahead and did their best to survive a difficult situation. The times today are not all that different. We don't know when natural disaster or other man made disaster might strike our family or community. Think about it. We host a scout troop at our church. Part of their motto is to be prepared. The federal government even recommends that everyone have a three day supply of food, medicine and clothing readily accessible in the event of a disaster of some sort. All you need to do is think of Hurricane Katrina to see how being prepared might have made a great difference in a person's ability to ride out the storm. Proverbs even talks about the ant that gathers in food to be prepared for the winter. So, negative connotations aside, I believe that this is an area that individuals and, especially Christians, should not ignore.

What is this ministry/outreach going to look like? What will we do? When will we meet? I can't answer those questions. I simply feel that God is showing us a ministry opportunity. It is up to us to put flesh on the barebones of what God has revealed to me. That is what we will begin doing this coming Tuesday night. So, if you want to get in on the ground floor of what I think could be a positive ministry within our church and community, then I encourage you to come and join us at this meeting.

Pastor's Ponderings



You can sponsor a bulletin. For \$15, we can put color on one side and for \$25 we can put color on both sides. Contact the office to see if the Sunday you want is available.

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Guest Columnist

Five Keys to an Incredible Greeters' Ministry

By Dr. Thom Rainer

It's the one thing all churches can do to reach more people, but it's one thing most churches give little attention.

Most churches can take five simple steps to create and/or improve their greeters' ministry and potentially see dramatic results. Let me give you a simple example of the potential impact.

A church of 200 in worship attendance may get 150 first-time guests in a year. Can you imagine the transformation that would take place if one-half of those guests connected with the church and became a part of the congregation? The church of 200 in attendance would become a church of 275 in attendance – in one year!

In our surveys of first-time guests, we hear repeatedly that one of the keys that caused them to return was a friendly first impression. Like it or not, it's often a make or break issue for the guest.

So how can you be certain that your greeters are doing everything possible to provide an incredible first-time impression? Here are five "best practices" where churches have dynamic greeter ministries, and where the return rate of guests is high.

Train your greeters. Most church greeters have had no training, and it is often painfully obvious. The simple process of training makes a dramatic difference in this ministry. Here is a link to the training we provide at LifeWay.

Create alternating teams of greeters. I recommend greeters serve in their place of ministry every other month. The rotation helps them keep a fresh perspective and avoid burnout. Of course, a greeter in the "off" cycle can fill in for another greeter when needed.

Treat the ministry as a major ministry of the church. In some churches, the greeters' ministry has second-class status. Those churches that are highly effective in retaining first-time guests understand the importance of this ministry. The leaders recruit highly-competent and highly-motivated church members for it.

Make visits to other churches a regular part of the greeters' training. I recommend greeters attend a different church about once a quarter. They should write down their experiences, good and bad, to share with others in the greeters' ministry.

Have quarterly greeters' meetings. The primary purpose of this meeting is to hear about the visits to other churches. It is not a meeting just for the sake of meeting.

I am asked regularly about the most effective ways to reach people in churches. Most churches have not made a significant commitment in training and resourcing greeters. That one simple but significant step could make a huge difference in the numbers reached for the gospel each year.

The Trinity Companion Sunday August 2, 2015



Trinity United Methodist Church

203 E 1st St, South—POB 217
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

Worship begins at 11:00 am
Pastor—Rev. Terry Goodman
Office: (276) 523-0789
Text Only : (760) 621-8264



Let me tell you how glad we are to have you at our worship service today. We hope that you will encounter the presence of the risen Christ. Please feel free to join in any of the activities or events that you see mentioned. Please come back and worship with us again!

Greeters: *Patty Cooper and Jackie Mainous*

Prelude

Announcements, Welcome, and Introduction : Martha Spurlock

Call to Worship: “He Lives”

*** Opening Hymn:** “He Lives” No. 310

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

(You will be given an opportunity to share joys and prayer concerns. Please raise your hand and wait until an usher comes to you with a microphone.)

Children’s Message Kim Parsons

The Presentation of God’s Tithe and Our Offerings

Ushers: Jack Williams, Ruben Allman, John Hagan and Mike Allen

*** The Doxology** No. 95

Musical Offering: “I Can Only Imagine” Soloist: David Goodman

The Presentation of God’s Word

Scripture: Ezekiel 14:6-14 (included in sermon)

Lector: The Word of the Lord for the people of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon : “False Assumptions”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(Please join in the ritual as it begins on page 12 in your hymnal.)

Communion Stewards: David and Jacob Goodman, Betty Cline and Diane Botts

*** Closing Hymn:** “Onward Christian Soldiers” No. 575

*** Pastoral Benediction :**

Postlude:

*** Please stand, as you are able**

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The Trinity Tribune

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UYMF Meeting

The UYMF will be meeting today August 2nd immediately after the church service to remove the VBS decoration.

Kids In Christ

Kids In Christ will be meeting on August 9th at 11:00 am-1:00 pm.

Prayer Circle

The Prayer Circle will be meeting on Wednesday August 5th at 6:00 pm.

Fellowship Supper

The Fellowship Supper is scheduled for Wednesday August 5th at 6:30 pm. Please bring a covered dish. We need volunteers to help set up for the Fellowship Supper.

AARP

AARP will be meeting on Monday August 3rd at 10:00 am. Everyone who are 50 years of age or older are invited to attend.

NOW Meeting

The NOW Team will be meeting on Monday August 3rd at 6:30 pm.

Circle Meetings

Thursday, August 6th

—10:00 am—Susanna Wesley Circle

—Noon—Wesleyan Circle

Sunday, August 16th

—5:00 pm—Asbury Circle

August Meetings and Activities

Sunday—August 2, 2015

—5:00 pm—UMYF

Monday-August 3, 2015

—10:00am—AARP

Wednesday-August 5, 2015

—6:00pm—Prayer Circle

—6:30pm—Fellowship Supper

—7:00pm—Choir Practice

Thursday-August 6, 2015

—10:00am—Susanna Wesley Circle

—Noon—Wesleyan Circle

August 2015						
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Financial Snapshot

The Administrative Board thinks that it is important that we give you a weekly Financial Snapshot. Here are some figures to ponder:

Funds need for HVAC Units.....\$ 5,800

Current Balance Forward Trinity Maintenance:\$ 5,802

Money Given to General Fund

Budgeted Need to Date\$91,532

Actual Amount Given to Date \$89,556



“I HAVE NOT STOPPED GIVING THANKS FOR YOU, REMEMBERING YOU IN MY PRAYERS.”

EPHESIANS 1:16, NIV

For Those with Cancer:

James Horne; Robin (Rita Nash’s Daughter); Barbara Polly; Debbie Cooper; Wilma Nein; Phyllis Gilley; Melody (Mellie) Gilley; Doris Berta; Sandra Rich

Facing or Recovering from Surgery or Hospital Stay

Beth Hagan; Becky Clark; Helen Cochran; Mary Warner; Liz Ashley; Don Whittaker; T. R Davidson; Janice Mohn

Non-Specific Prayers for:

Brownie Polly; Dagni Spurlock; Virginia Sigmon; Geneva Allen; Jim Gates; Fred Vanbever; Jennie Shupe; Hope Meade; Matt Carroll; Jim Cooper; Melvin Carter; Kenny Spurlock’s mother; George Gose; Bill & Jean Hendrick; Mike Shaffer; Peggy Bates; Marion Kocher; Bob Horne; Ann Davis, Travis Rogers, Roy Rogers

- Pray for our Pastor and the Leaders of our church.
- Pray for the Leaders of the United Methodist Church.
- Pray for those in the Church in need.

If you know that someone on the prayer list has passed away, please contact the church office.