

Parson to Person by Pastor Dave

You know the old saying, “Well, I have good news, and I have bad news...” This little article will explore both of these as they are currently on my mind following our mostly wonderful worship service together this morning, July 28th.

If you were with us, you will recall that we had a rather extended prayer time, much of it related to the Park Fire and the intense feelings and anxieties these cataclysmic events always create. So here’s the good news: Christina and I are going to combine forces and offer a support group for you folks, and the friends and neighbors that you invite. It may be a single session, or it may become an ongoing thing, we aren’t sure yet, it will depend on the needs and desires of the participants. But for sure it will be a place to talk and process, find support and

hope, and explore our feelings from both the spiritual angle, but also in the light of current therapeutic practice. Christina is a gifted, intuitive therapist, and I am, well, you know. Rich will send out an email or two to everyone as soon as we can get things scheduled, but it will be begin within the next few weeks.

I like that good news! And what occasioned it, of course, is the bad news, as it were, our wandering about during prayer time dancing pretty darned close to group therapy. We know better, that this is not the point of our corporate prayer, but we were pretty worked up and I sensed that people really needed to talk, so we let it go on... and on... and on. Absolutely, there is a place for this kind of sharing, but it really isn’t appropriate during the

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Our Purpose
To ENGAGE people in joyful relationships with God and with each other, so we will GROW in Christ-like compassion, and SHARE the blessings of the Holy Spirit.



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prayer time.

Here is how I understand it – we believe that God already knows our needs and wants before we even speak them, right? So, the purpose of group prayer is to invite others into the awareness that God already has. Our primary error – and please forgive me if this stings for you – is that some of us tend to provide *way too much* unnecessary detail, and *much too much* backstory during the worship service. God already knows the story, and if others want to know more, they can always ask. Our prayer requests are just that, *requests*, and we don't need to defend them, explain them, or put them in context. We just need to simply lift the names of the folks for whom we are praying, and maybe a detail or two, but not more than that.

Besides the frustration of enduring the seemingly random verbal wandering, I also have concerns because of the online nature of our worship experience. I am guilty of oversharing in this way too, proclaiming things that maybe should not be available to the whole world via Facebook. For example, we may feel quite differently about a disease progression than the patient or the family of that person; some folks are more private, y'know? So let's hedge our bets and reduce the volume of

detail during prayer time, okay? Thanks for your thoughtfulness and consideration as we continue to perfect our worship time together!

Rally Day

Rally Day is coming soon, so mark your calendar. The potluck and kickoff celebration of the new church year will be September 8 following the 10:30 service. In addition to the potluck, there will be several other activities. There will be an ice cream social courtesy of the membership team. The always popular cake/plant walk will also return. And there will be a water slide on the front lawn for the kids. Rally Day is always a fun event for all ages. So, please plan to attend.

Submitted by Rich Wolff

Membership Team

Your membership committee is working hard on our directory. Thank you to all of you who have responded to email, phone calls and sent in pictures that you would like included in the directory. We are still accepting changes in your info and pictures that you would like us to include. If you have changes for others that we can include in the directory please pass those on.

We also need people to visit our shut-ins and those who would like visits from Trinity. Just call Mary Wahl if you are willing to help us out with this visitation. Thank you
Your Membership committee

Submitted by Mary Wahl

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ENGAGE

GROW

SHARE



WORSHIP IN AUGUST

Sunday, August 4th

Pastor Dave and Christina are away today, but our time together will feature fine preaching from Max Feiler, and the piano stylings of Minda Fernish. The text for the day is John 8.1-11, and the sermon title will be “Raze Out The Written Troubles”. Shakespear fans, this is a good Sunday for you! We will celebrate Holy Communion NEXT WEEK when Pastor Dave is returned.

Sunday, August 11th Holy Communion today

John 6:35, 41-51 leads us into a fascinating discussion about the nourishment of Christ, and the enormous controversy this passage caused in the early days of the Church. The message will be entitled “The Bread of Life”, and of course we will celebrate the Lord’s Supper today!

Sunday, August 18th

“Caution, Clarity, and Celebration” is the message this morning, based on the luminous writings from Ephesians 5:15-20. Wonderful music and prayers will make for a blessed morning.

Sunday, August 25th

Today we dive into one of the more controversial sections of the entire Bible, the words found in John 6:56-69. The question of the day, and also the sermon title, is “How Much is Too Much?”