



The Stidham Story

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September 2014

Stidham United Methodist Church

Dave's Diary

Third Attempt Master's Servant

This is my third attempt at writing this column for the newsletter. The first one was out done by Betty Greene and I didn't think you needed two doses of the same. The second one might have been out of place so we will try again.

I just returned from the hospital seeing my brother Rob. He is having a very difficult time at present with tumors growing so fast that he isn't able to eat and the doctor said this morning that the only option was radiation. There are other problems too, however, I will spare you the details.

We are told in the Bible that we are to obey God and to listen to what he wants us to do. In other words, be the Master's Servant. I think of this because Rob has been a faithful servant all of his life and he continues to do whatever the doctors order. But whether Rob was teaching or now with health problems, he has always done as he was told.

It got me to thinking, what if we took the time to listen to God and always do what He wants us to do. What a better world we would be living in if we listened to the Master. Paul says in Ephesians 4:12, "He handed out gifts above and below, filled heaven with his gifts, filled earth with gifts. He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher to train Christ's followers in skilled servant work, working within Christ's body, the church, until we're all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God's Son, the fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ."

The organic, living, interrelated body that we're part of in the church needs to be coordinated, mended, put together at the joints so that it can go out into the world and do Christ's work. In other words, be the Master's Servant.

Blessings,

Dave

I WOULD APPRECIATE GETTING YOUR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES BY SEPTEMBER 25th.

THANK YOU
JUDY HENDERSON

Things going on in the church for the Month of September 2014

Bible Study each Monday night at 6:30pm- September 8,15,22,29

Bible Study each Tuesday morning at 10:00am- September 9,16,23,30

Choir Practice each Wednesday night 7:00pm-September 3,10,17,24

Lighthouse Prayer Group each Thursday mornings at 10:00am– September 4,11,18

Sunday September 14 Church will be at Elston Presbyterian Church, 375 Elston Rd, Lafayette at 9:30am. Lunch will be served after Worship Service. Please take a dessert.

COMMUNITY MEAL SEPTEMBER 28, 2014

On Sunday September 28 we are in charge of providing and serving the Community Meal at Trinity UMC, at 12:15pm. We will serve hot dogs, pork-n-beans, applesauce, chips and cookies.

We need workers as well as food donations. Workers need to be there by 11:30am. Sign up sheets are in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you,

Your Missions Committee
Jane Hand, Chairman

MISSION SUNDAY PROJECTS FOR SEPTEMBER 22nd—28rd

METHODIST MOUNTAIN MISSION PICK-UP—Please have items here by Saturday September 20. They will be picking up sometime between September 22-24.

KARIO COOKIES—Betty Greene will be baking cookies on these dates. Monday, September 22, Tuesday, September 23, Wednesday, September 24, Thursday, September 25, Saturday, September 27, and Sunday, September 28. Sign-up Sheets are in Fellowship Hall.

DAY OF PRAYER—Lighthouse Prayer Group—Thursday September 25 from 8:00am—8:00pm Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall with times.

HYGIENE KIT—Sunday September 28—Bruce Baugh & Diann Robinson

TRINITY MEAL—Sunday September 28 at Trinity UMC church 314 N. 6th St. Sign-up sheets for food and helpers in Fellowship Hall. If you are helping serve, please be at the church by 11:30am. Jane Hand- Chairman

TRASH PICK-UP—Sunday September 28—Dave Webb

PAINTING A RAMP AND FIRE EXIT DOORS AT CARY HOME

SOUND SYSTEMS—Tom Kanaby

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES—Arletta Brown

HOW MUCH IS 2.4?

It is difficult to discover something as personal as time and money. I guard both topics with passion. I sit at my kitchen table and look at a wooden plaque hanging on the kitchen wall. It has a message burned into it that says "Not Everything God Gives you Is For You." It is there to be my conscious, reminding me of my many blessings and asking me to share them with others. I pledge and give to support the church and its many projects and programs. My giving each week is a small part of the income required to keep the church operating each week. If all of us would give a fair share of our blessings and the church all added together the church will thrive. If I am absent a Sunday I add the pledge I made for the time I was away to my giving that week to catch up. God doesn't ever stop giving to me. The church must continue to be open even when I am not there and I expect it to be available when I return. My blessings are 24/7 and my giving should be the same. Not only is my financial support needed but I know the opportunity to give of my time.

I saved the page of September 4, 2013, Upper Room to remind me each day that I need to give a tenth of my time to the Lord as well as tithing my income. The writer went on to do a little math and titled the donation 2.4 Hours. Her meaning was that every day I need to give 2.4 hours of my day doing God's work. The writer continued with many suggestions for spending that 2.4 hours. She said I could bank time for days when I could give more than 2.4 hours. There is a list of serving possibilities in the church bulletin every Sunday. Worship leaders are needed, children's story time and children's church leaders are needed in short supply; acolytes and ushers are also on the list. Are there others that will help the caring volunteers that come forward Sunday after Sunday to enhance the service?

The missions committee is planning a week of activities to live the church be the church by giving time and talent to serving others. Mark your calendars for September 22-28. there are numerous activities on clip boards waiting for your signature on the tables in Fellowship Hall.

The Baked Steak Dinner, a project to earn income for upcoming giving, is scheduled in October. Sign up to help and donate needed food.

The Methodist Mountain Missions will be here in September to pick up items donated to needy people in Appalachia. We need to have our items to the church by September 20th.

My, it sounds like I have many opportunities to give my 2.4 hours a day to the lord. Yes, it is 2.4 hours a day. Save some hours and give a whole day to doing His work. Or you could go on a mission week to Henderson Settlement and give a lot of hours in grand proportions. Read Luke 6:33-38.

You will find a copy of the devotional I referred to below. God bless you and I'll see you Sunday! See below the copy of the devotional Betty referred to.

Love and prayers,

Betty Greene

2.4 HOURS **Read Luke 6:33-38**

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, presses down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Many people are sticklers about tithing a tenth of their income, but tithing includes more than just our money. Sometimes, when it comes to time, we aren't so generous in giving to the Lord. A tenth of our day is just under two and a half hours—2.4 to be exact. When we think of all the things we already cram into our day, it may seem impossible to give that much time to God. The good news is that our tithe of time doesn't have to be spent all at once. We can give more time on weekends, if necessary. We can do a variety of things as we tithe our time to God each day: study the Bible, pray for others, call someone, send an encouraging e-mail, send a card to brighten someone's day, fix a meal for the sick, visit the housebound, bake cookies for a neighbor, be a mentor to a young person who doesn't have both parents, bring groceries to a needy family, take a depressed friend out for coffee, or listen to a friend unload problems. Once those activities become habits, we might be surprised to find that a tenth of our day just isn't enough to serve God.

Prayer: Dear Lord, help us to devote time each day to serving you. Open our eyes to see where we are needed. Amen

BEWARE OF GARBAGE TRUCKS

As most of you know Dave and I have bought a house recently. Though we are not 1st time home-owners, it has been many years since we have owned a property. Since closing, we have been planning changes to the interior and exterior to personalize the house. This involves estimates from contractors and purchasing materials, all of which can get me frustrated, especially when the possible contractors don't return my call or don't show up. Add to that my allergy to the heat and humidity of summer while weeding and mowing and you have 'cranky Cathy'.

In sorting through my "Keepers File" in my e-mail I ran across this story which I read AGAIN. We all need to **Beware of Garbage Trucks** and read it again and again to help us focus on the positive. I may place this story on a mirror for the rest of my life!

Beware of Garbage Trucks-by David J. Pollay

How often do you let other people's nonsense change your mood? Do you let a bad driver, rude waiter, curt boss, or an insensitive employee ruin your day? Unless you're the Terminator, for an instant you're probably set back on your heels. However, the mark of a successful person is how quickly one can get back their focus on what's important.

Sixteen years ago I learned this lesson while in a taxi cab. I hopped in the taxi, and we took off for Grand Central Station. We were driving in the right lane when, all of a sudden, a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded and missed the other car's back end by just inches! The driver of the other car, the guy who almost caused a big accident, whipped his head around and started yelling at us.

My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And I mean, he was friendly. So I said "Why did you just do that? That guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!" This was my taxi driver's answer which I now call "The Law Of the Garbage Truck."

Many people are like **garbage trucks**. They run around full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it.

If you let them, they'll dump it on you. When someone wants to dump their garbage on you, don't take it personally; smile, wave, wish them well, and move on.

You will be happier.

Cathy

PRAYER LIST

Everyone needs a prayer every day. Let us give thanks and ask God to be with those who are on our prayer list and all those who are going through personal struggles, health issues, and other worries that they may have. Share your faith and love for one another as life works in different ways. Amen

John Worth, Bruce Rose & Family, Betty Weaver, Jean Bennett, Midge Hockema, Lee Roy Williams, Reba Page, Fred Rose, Dick Watts, James Wesley Klinger, Jill Plantenga and Family, Rob Inskeep, Roy Becker, Larry Burkert, our military and world leaders, and all those who are mentioned in our worship service on Sunday morning, as well as those mentioned silently in prayer.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER 2014

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 7- Susan Walters
- 8- Evalyn Windle
- 19- Sue Davis
- 20- Jordan Morland
- 22- Molly Whitehead-Slavens
- 23- Dave Webb
- 25- Bruce Parker
- 25- Sandy Nolfi

- 10- Larry & Judy Henderson
- 16- Bill & Jane Lutgen
- 16- Pat & Melinda VanderBok Wheeler



THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

A FAITHFUL LIFE IS A PRECIOUS JEWEL IN THE CROWN OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

FAITH REQUIRES PATIENCE AND PRACTICE.

GOD IS OUR GREATEST RESOURCE.

LOOK FOR GOD'S LOVE IN UNEXPECTED PLACES.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION PAGE FOR AUGUST 2014

ATTENDANCE			OFFERING			
DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP SERVICE	DATE	BUDGET	SPECIALS	TOTAL
8/3/14	21	87	8/3/14	\$4,465.25	0.00	\$4,465.25
8/10/14	20	86	8/10/14	\$3,759.25	\$1350.00	\$5,109.25
8/17/14	19	89	8/17/14	\$2,969.25	0.00	\$2,969.25
8/24/14	15	77	8/24/14	\$2,256.25	\$30.00	\$2,286.25
8/31/14	18	87	8/31/14	\$3,738.25	\$800.00	\$4,538.25

To Bring you Up to Date

Summary of the Income and Expenses for 2014

Income—January– August 2014 \$101,900.97

Expenses January—August 2014 \$114,304.22

Total a minus of— \$ 12,403.25

Your church needs YOUR help to meet it's obligations for the program and activities that have gone on and are planned for the rest of this year!!

Please keep your giving as current as possible and, when and where possible, add additional amounts to keep Stidham able to meet the needs of our community to extend Christian ministry where needed.

At this time we are \$12,403.25 behind 2013 in keeping up with what has been collected for 2014. YOUR help will keep YOUR church continue to keep this years programs and ministries going successfully!

Thanks to you ALL who make Stidham such a vibrant friendly church. With ALL of us working together we can meet our goals all the needs that come up.

Your Finance Committee,

Bill Lutgen
Chairman

MISSIONS PROJECTS

Here is a list for the year of Food Pantry Items needed each month!

JANUARY—IS THE MONTH FOR STIDHAM MEMBERS TO DONATE MONEY-MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO STIDHAM UMC AND MARK YOUR PEW ENVELOPES “FOOD PANTRY” AND PUT IN THE OFFERING PLATE.

FEBRAURY– CANNED MEAT OR TUNA

MARCH—SPAGHETTI SAUCE OR NOODLES (NO GLASS JARS)

APRIL—PAPER PRODUCTS

MAY—CASH DONATIONS

JUNE—CANNED FRUIT

JULY—MACRONI & CHEESE

AUGUST—PAPER PRODUCTS

SEPTEMBER—CASH DONATIONS

OCTOBER—PEANUT BUTTER

NOVEMBER—SOUP & CRACKERS

DECEMBER—OATMEAL OR CERAL

TABS AND CAN COLLECTION FOR RILEY HOSPITAL

Leave your tabs and cans in the containers in Fellowship Hall and Kevin Fry will pick them up and turn them in. He will be cashing in the cans every 4th quarter, so continue bringing them in.

LIGHTHOUSE PRAYER GROUP MISSION PROJECT

The labels collected will be sent to Henderson Settlement. Please see the display in Fellowship Hall showing how each label is to be turned in. There is a basket for you to put your labels in. There are white sheets in Fellowship Hall by the basket showing you what companies are participating in the program.

The Lighthouse Prayer Group would appreciate your help in making this a big success!

