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Reaching Out

Sunday we had the privilege of having Matt Homeyer speak on how to treat visitors coming into our church. He did a good job of reminding us that being a church visitor is a terrifying experience even if you are well versed in church life. He brought several things to our attention that concerned him as he has visited churches in the Waco area, and I hope we learned a lot from him. There are some days that we are excellent at receiving new people into worship, however, there are other days we miss the mark. We need to make sure that we are excelling every week, and not allowing any one to fall through the cracks when they bless us with their presence.

One of the things that we will do different that was already in the works is adding Kathy and Ronny Foit to our welcome team on Sunday mornings. They along with Matt Pirko and Bob McKamie will go out of their way to make sure our visitors are greeted and taken care of. One of the things we were reminded of in our conversations is that a church cannot be too welcoming. We must do everything in our power to make sure visitors feel loved and welcomed in all aspects of our Sunday morning routine.

It is important for us to know that Bob, Matt, Kathy, and Ronny are leading us in welcoming visitors, but they cannot do it alone. They need significant help from the entire membership. I hope and expect that you will find one of those leaders asking you to welcome visitors. This might mean sitting somewhere you normally wouldn't or having a conversation you weren't expecting, but we all have a responsibility to welcome these visitors in our midst and help them to feel at home. That familial love is one of the best things we have to offer new people in our worship. If they come away with anything from being with us it should be that sort of love.

I felt like there were three main things that struck a chord with us during Matt Homeyer's testimony: 1. The most important thing we can do for visitors is have clear plan for them on our website. Nearly all church visitors are visiting your website before they visit your church, and the website should be as visitor friendly as the worship. 2. The grounds matter. What the church looks like and how well kept it is makes a huge difference to people on the outside. We have good people who do our weekly cleaning and mowing, but there is more to care of the church than that. We all need to be involved in the care of the grounds as we see necessary. 3. Just as every church member who walks into worship on Sunday morning needs to look for the new faces they should do the same as we are leaving. If you're intentional you can readily see those who are confused or alone, and it is your responsibility to make sure they do not stay that way.

I know we can excel at this, and learn to be great at welcoming visitors. It starts with you this Sunday morning.

Chris



Zach Johnigan
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As we head into the Fall semester, I would like to share one of the most impactful definitions of worship I have ever heard. Each month I will break down the definition phrase by phrase, and, hopefully, help shed some light to a new perspective of worship. This comes from a class taught by one of my favorite professors at Baylor, Dr. David Music, and it states:

Worship is communion with God in which believers by grace center their mind's attention and heart's affection on the Lord, humbly glorifying God in response to His greatness and His Word.

Worship is communion with God: We share with God what God shares with us. God initiates our worship, and He enables our responses. In order to commune with someone, one must be present with whomever one is communing with. Jesus says that "where two or more are gathered in My name, I will be there also." Jesus is in our midst when we gather, sing, fellowship, and listen to The Word of God; and that enables us to commune with Him. (On a side note Jesus is not only present in our gatherings. If He is your Lord, then His Spirit is with you wherever you go.) We know Jesus is with us, but we don't want to get too caught up in the business of life to where we miss out on enjoying His presence. In Luke 10:38-42, Jesus came into the home of Martha and Mary. Martha was too distracted by the preparations for the evening, and she missed out on the enjoyment Mary was getting from Jesus Christ's communion. Needless to say, we do not need to get too caught up in our work. Our work for Jesus grows out of spending time with Jesus. Don't get too caught up in the job to where you miss the point of the work. Enjoy the awesome privilege of walking step by step with The Lord, and let His love fuel your every action.

Zach

October 18th -Noon
3rd Sunday Lunch
Get your appetite ready.



My family and I want to thank you so much for your expressions of care for us in the loss of Frances(Tootie). Your bringing of food and your presence did much to ease the pain. You are a most gracious church family.
Dewey

October 2015

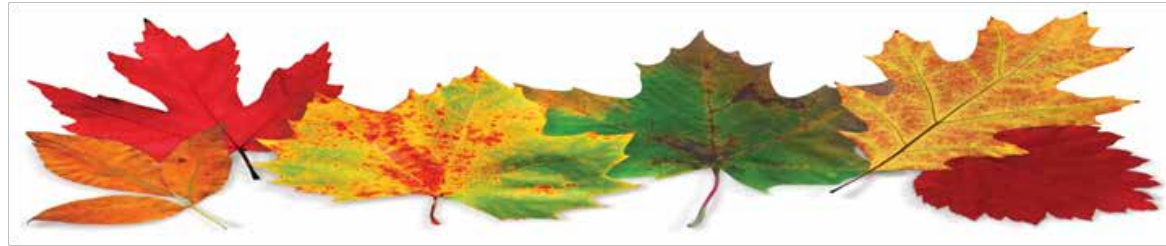
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
unday	onday	uesday	ednesday	ursday	aturday	unday
Deacon Lock-up October- Derrell Smith November--Bob McKamie Men's Prayer Breakfast Every Thursday Morning 6:30 am				Senior Adults 10 am 1	2 Christina Pringle Emilee Wade	3 Ricky Pringle Danny Raines
Nursery Volunteers Kathy Riley Lisa Moreno 4 Deacon's Meeting 4 PM Church Council Meeting --5pm Kaden Kemp	5 Vicki Byrd Evelene Nour	6 Tierra Gandara Janis Hill	K.I.C. 7 6:30 pm Monthly Alzheimer's Support Group 10 am	Senior Adults 10 am 8 Natalie McCormick	9 Jarra Exum Macie Wissinger	10 Frances Daniels
Nursery Volunteers Barbara Sauls Cheyenne Raines 11 Finance Committee Meeting -- 3PM	12 Cyndi Ming	13 Joshua Amaro Jerry Byram	K.I.C. 14 6:30 pm Nick McKinney	Senior Adults 10 am 15	16 <i>5th Quarter</i>	17
Nursery Volunteers Jane Hall Mary Stone 18 3rd Sunday Lunch Quarterly Business Meeting 7pm	19	20 Robert Ming Rick Pringle	K.I.C. 21 6:30 pm	Senior Adults 10 am 22	23	24 Caleb Hogue
Nursery Volunteers Monica McCormick Amy Johnson 25 4th Sunday Game Night 6:00 pm Lee Lowe Alex Patterson	26 LaJuana Shilling	27 Frances Gillen	K.I.C. 28 6:30 pm Ginger Keeton Dorothy Moore	Senior Adults 10 am 29 Jessica Mitzel Debbie Reed Courtney Tindle	30 <i>5th Quarter</i>	31
Deacon's Meeting Sunday, October 4th-4:00PM Church Council Meeting Sunday, October 4th -5:00 pm			Finance Committee Meeting Sunday, October 11th--3:00PM Quarterly Business Meeting Sunday, October 18th 7:00pm			



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What will I do when God confronts me? What will I answer when called to account: Job 31:14.

We are learning about Character Building in KIC. There are 36 different Character Traits that we will be learning and relating them to a person in the Bible. The traits for October will be knowledgeable, self-control, bold, and hopeful. Sunday School is going great! We have started a new curriculum and the children seem to love it. We are learning about the Bible in a hands on way. The Bible will come alive every Sunday. For October the lesson is Three Women of Faith.



Wednesday Night Menus

Menu Can Change Without Notice

- Oct. 7--Grilled Cheese
- Oct. 14--Pancakes
- Oct. 21-Chili Dogs
- Oct. 28--Spaghetti

Sign-up sheet for meal donations in fellowship hallway.

Thank you to everyone who helps us get this together each week. We couldn't do it without you.

Weekly Bible Study

Study through the bible by subjects such as Church, Salvation and Creation
Every Monday at 6:30 pm to be held at Rick & Kenita Fendley's home
733 Cox's Oak Valley Rd.

Child care if needed. **NO HOMEWORK!!!!**
Call Rick for more information at 936-537-7505.

Fall is a busy time for all of us. School is in session. Work continues and grows as we reach end of the year deadlines. Being busy with the day to day tasks seems mundane after a while but it seems to tear our bodies apart and we become tired more easily than we would normally be. Some days are just tough.

As I went through the past couple days, I faced a lot of struggles with difficult challenges in class, and even more difficult challenges working at TSTC as a student worker. I've been trying to relax since about 5:30 PM when I got home, but I still felt drained. I tried to take a nap but couldn't. I watched TV for a while and enjoyed a few too many chips and dips, but I still wasn't relaxed. I went out shopping at Best Buy, Walmart, and HEB, but still didn't feel relaxed.

As I'm writing this, I am now enjoying a good breakfast at Whataburger at a little after midnight. As I'm eating, I notice the music playing in the restaurant, and I recognize it. The song is Praise You in this Storm by Casting Crowns. As I stop to listen to it, the song talks about things that are happening that aren't always going our way and that we still need to praise God through the storm. I really didn't think that I was in a storm, just stressed. But the reality is, that in all the hustle and bustle of daily life, I didn't take time to think about what God had done for me today, even the small things. My favorite passage of scripture is Psalm 46. It talks about how we should not fear and trust God even when the mountains fall into the sea. If God is in control when disasters like that happen, isn't he still in control when we are just having a stressful day? Normally I would say that the answer is an automatic "Yes," but as I think about it my answer starts to change. The truth is that God wants to be in control of the little things that happen in our mundane lives, but a lot of times we don't let him. God could have helped me a lot sooner with my stressful day if I had followed the end of the Psalm.

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."
Psalm 46:10



4th Sunday, October 25th

Memory Scriptures:

- Romans 10:9**
- Matthew 22:37-40**
- John 6:28-29**
- John 3:16**