

North Fort Myers Church of the Nazarene

Messenger

- June, 2019, Volume 10, Issue 2

GOD'S Summertime

This week, the city swooped in and reworked all the sidewalks out on our section of Bayshore Road. Having walked them recently, I only noticed a few cracks here and there. But someone must have believed they were in great need of replacing – so, we have brand new sidewalks.

Maybe someone decided that because summer is approaching it is a good time to do some “sprucing up.” For a lot of people, summertime is the season for kicking back, relaxing, and refreshing. For others, it is the perfect time for getting caught up on all those unfinished projects and long put off chores.

But what about the Church? It would be hard to say summer calls for “business as usual” when such a large percentage of our regular folks pack up and head north as soon as the daffodils peak their heads into the sunshine. However, the question we probably need to ask ourselves is, “What does GOD have in mind for us this summer?”

Here’s a few summertime suggestions:

1. **Make Repairs** – **2 Chronicles 32:5** records:

And he took courage and rebuilt all the wall that had been broken down and erected towers on it, and built another outside wall and strengthened the Millo in the city of David, ...

Without doubt, many of our winter folks return to their homes and find the typical conditions of winter have created problems with their houses or lawns which need attention. Take a look around your “house” this summer. Not the dwelling where you hang your hat, but your spirit-dwelling – that place where you “hang out” with GOD. Are there places in your heart that need a closer look and a refreshing? Have you begun to grow weary or bored with your relationship with your Savior? **Hebrews 12:12-13** encourages us to,

strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

Places in need of repair will go one way or another. They will either continue to decline or they will receive the attention they require.

Strengthening our “spirit-house” is possible, but it means targeting what is broken, which means simply coming to Him with a spirit of honesty and humility and the desire to see newness and life.

2. **Make Decisions** - **James 1:5** promises us:

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

and **Jeremiah 33:3** promises:

'Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

It has been said that summer in Florida helps us have a better idea of why hell should be avoided at all costs. What we do know is our summers create one thing more than any other – the desire to stay inside where it’s cool. But staying inside can also create a laziness physically and mentally. We can find ourselves putting off tough decisions and problems that need tackling. Why not resolve to make this summer the time where you will put in the time to think through and work through the tough stuff, and then –

3. **Move Forward** – **Psalms 92:12-14** tells us:

The righteous man will flourish like the palm tree, He will grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God. They will still yield fruit in old age;

D. L. Moody once said, “*The Scriptures were not given for our information, but for our transformation.*”

Choosing to make summertime a season of growth means we don’t take a break from walking with the Light of our lives. It needs to be a time of transformation and spiritual growth. This is the ideal time to seek to renew your mind. Read a book that challenges you or challenges your thinking. Or just take on a book of the Bible you have never studied, get a good commentary, and enrich your knowledge of the Word. Make the decision that this summer will not end without a good dose of repairing, renewing and growth.

As a church, let’s make this summer all about GOD’s idea of what makes a summer good. **Becky**

Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 – Darlene Roach
 6 – Paul & Grace Bolling
 Van & Becky Garner
 7 – Craig Smith
 08 – Wellma Owens
 09 – Richard & Sheryl Colie
 11 – Phoebe Barr
 13 – Lillian Love

15 – Betty Garten
 17 – Craig & Libby Smith
 19 – Diane Bowker
 Dan Joslin
 22 – Gary & Judy Rice
 24 – Kathy Parker
 26 – Beth Garner
 28 – Galen Clark

Calendar

12 – Food Distribution
 13 – Board Meeting
 16 – Father's Day
 17 – 21 – Teen Camp
 18 – Busy Hands
 23 – Family Fun Sunday Night
 at the parsonage



Prayer Needs:

Bissinger Family
 Susie & Jamie Lorenson
 Ryan Woodby
 Paul & Grace Boling
 Dave Peck
 Louis Perez
 Children & Teen Depts.
 Eileen Jennings
 Marlene Ryan
 The Nation of Israel
 Our military, our leaders & our nation

Phoebe Barr	Steve Cox	Tammy Jenkins
Ernie Rybold	Dave Fregeau	Dorothy & Laurel Chapman
Ida Chaplow	Betty Predko	Shery Colie & Family
Matthew Morgan	Ardyth Eldridge	Orion Predko
Eileen Massett	Joseph Groves	Mark & Kim Barr
Cody Church	Betty Retter	Kenny & Gail Goodman
Regina Williams	Alice Daugherty	Phyllis Obney
Kitty Baxter	Nick Kiser	Phillip Lindsey
Our missionaries	A Youth Pastor	Unsaved Loved Ones
Our Church Leaders	House of James Ministries	



Harry Chapin Food Bank
 OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope

We need volunteers to help with the distribution of food on Wednesday, June 12, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, to help with a variety of tasks. Please spread the word to anyone you think could benefit from this special outreach and join us as we partner to help those in need. And once again, thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus in North Fort Myers.



TEEN CAMP 2019 – June 17-21

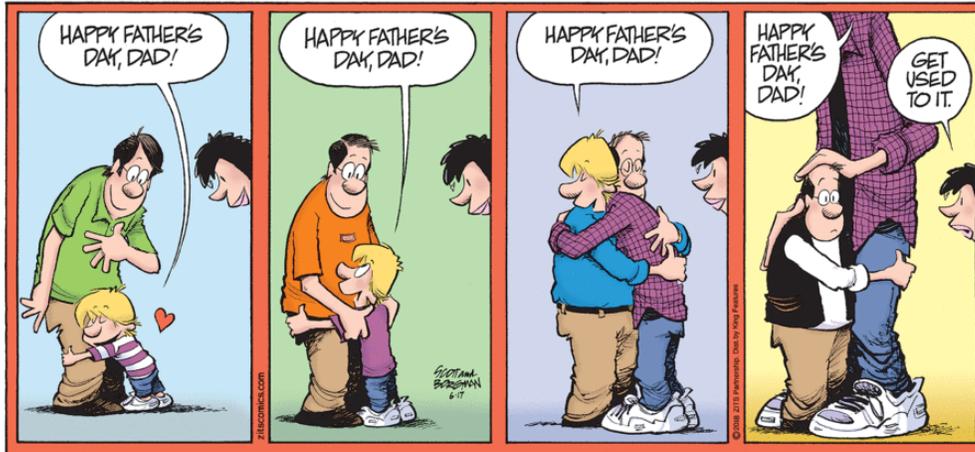


SOUTHERN FLORIDA NYI CAMP
 Student cost \$185

Featuring special guest, Pastor Jeremy Veal
 Worship by TNU's Awaken

Church News:

- Long-time member, Marilyn Bissinger lost her two adult sons in May within a few days of each other. Notes of condolence can be sent to 4508 Irelands, Dayton, Ohio 45440
- Ardyth Eldridge was released from the hospital and is now home recuperating. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.
- Phoebe Barr remains in the hospital following surgery and continues to need your prayers.
- Pastor Van's brother-in-law, Steve Cox, was diagnosed for a third time with leukemia. He will be undergoing intensive chemotherapy and treatment for the next several weeks. Prayers are appreciated.
- With summer upon us, many of our church family will be traveling. Please remember them in prayer.



Family Fun Sunday Night Sunday, June 23 - 6:00 P.M.

We will be meeting at the parsonage
for a time of worship and Bible study ~
followed by food, fun and fellowship.

We will provide sandwiches and drinks.
Everyone bring a side dish, drinks or dessert.

You can sit by the pool or feel free to bring your suit and take a dip.

GODLY DADS

This month we will honor our fathers:

A son once wrote a letter to his father from college which read:

Dear Dad,

School i\$ great. I'm making lot\$ of friend\$ and \$tudying hard. I \$imply can't think of anything I need, \$o ju\$t \$end me a card, a\$ I would love to hear from you.

Love, Your \$on

The father replied:

Dear Son,

I kNOw astroNOmy, ecoNOmics and oceaNOgraphy are eNOugh to keep even an hoNOor student busy. Do NOT forget that the pursuit of kNOwledge is a NOble task, and you can never study eNOugh.

Love, Dad

Sounds like a wise father.

When we look into the Bible, we find many wise men we could use as examples for this Father's Day. Job is not usually one of those men – but let's take a look anyway.

Job 1:1-4

In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil. He had seven sons and three daughters, and he owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen and five hundred donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East. His sons used to hold feasts in their homes on their birthdays, and they would invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them

Godly Example 1 - Job was perfect, complete, pious – The Hebrew word for pious is "Tawm," meaning he had a complete veneration for God and obedience to His commands.

Godly Example 2 - Job was upright – “Yaw Shur” means he was upright. He was a man of integrity and good moral standing.

Godly Example 3 – Job feared God - Yaw Ray - means he was a man who revered God. He had a true, deep concern for how and what God was thinking.

Godly Example 4 – Job eschewed evil – Eschewed – "Soor," meaning "Turned Off." When evil came around, Job just simply turned it off, walked away, avoided, shunned, moved away. He shut it down.

The last example is found in verse 5: *When a period of feasting had run its course, Job would make arrangements for them to be purified. Early in the morning he would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, thinking, "Perhaps my children have sinned and cursed God in their hearts."* This was Job's regular custom.

Godly Example 5 - Probably one of the most important examples we have – Prayer. This man prayed for his family, his children – and did it continually.

Of the three youth groups I was privileged to lead, out of every group, over half of the teens came from single-parent homes. The absence of fathers in the lives of those teenagers was obvious most of the time by the actions, reactions and even bitterness that would show up in their attitudes on a regular basis. God made fathers a large part of the developmental equation of children for a reason. And when they are absent or do not take their role in their child's life seriously, it causes many emotional scars and heartaches.

I was blessed to grow up in a Christian home with a Godly father. Many today do not have that privilege. If you know a child in your church or neighborhood who needs a Godly father figure in their life, ask the Lord if you should step in and be a Godly influence in their life.

Son: Dad, do you know the difference between a pack of cookies and a pack of elephants?

Dad: No.

Son: Then it's a good thing Mom does the grocery shopping!

To be a good dad you don't have to know everything, but it is great to know the God who does.

Have a great Fathers' Day

Blessings, Pastor Van

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