

# TIDINGS



## IT TAKES GRACE...

“Let God have your life; He can do more with it than you can.” [D.L. Moody]

“We don’t have revival because we are willing to live without it.” [Greg Gordon]

Sunday’s sermon is still with me this morning...

We are reminded over and over again that our God is enough – and that He uses surrendered people: “My God will supply your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” [Philippians 4:19]

Presbyterians seem to get a pass (or maybe we just take one) when it comes to revival. Funny how that has evolved, though, since one of the greatest revivals of our nation was birthed barely over an hour away in Logan County...at a Presbyterian Church. The Second Great Revival happened, history tells us, not because God loved Presbyterians more than Baptists or Pentecostals in 1800, but because God recognized a desire of more of Him... and it didn’t stay with the Presbyterians. Revival overflowed into every church and into neighboring counties and throughout the United States!

History is an interesting thing...

There are times when we live in the past rather than the present. We remember how it used to be...back in the good old days. Our memories are pretty selective, though, aren’t they? We remember a slower time, a time without people bumping into each other because they’re staring at their cell phones. We fail to remember that we were able to speak with and see the grandkids on Facetime over the weekend.

There are times, too, when we live in the present and can’t remember our past. We want to do and accomplish things for God, but we are unwilling to look over our shoulders to recognize there have been lots of lessons laid out before us to learn from.

A revived church...Here are some of my thoughts...

Until revival becomes a personal issue, it will never become a church reality. We ask for the life-changing presence of God’s Holy Spirit, right? What happens if we take that request seriously and He actu-

ally shows up? I’m thinking His glory, power, and love would be felt in such a way that it would be impossible for any of us to remain the same.

Prayer is obviously essential. Prayer is vital. God looks for the hearts that are thirsty. Prayer, along with fasting and the Word of God, offers an opportunity to be where God wants us to be, but revival is always a sovereign work of God, and He alone gives it. We cannot create our own hoops, then jump through them to achieve revival. We have to be where He wants us to be, as His children and as His church.

Without a spirit of surrender and desire, revival will not come. It was the earnest and genuine requests that stopped Jesus along the paths He walked. Jesus was attracted by the ones who dared to believe that He could answer their prayers, and He did. Perhaps, when we feel we have not, it’s because we ask not?

Let’s work on that...together. Blessings, RevLon.

### Special Dates of Interest:

- *Labor Day, September 7, 2015*
- *Patriot Day, September 11, 2015*
- *National Grandparents Day, September 13, 2015*
- *Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15–October 15, 2015*
- *First Day of Autumn, September 23, 2015*

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## HOME COMMUNION RE-DO

We’ve advertised for any of our elders (presently on the Session or not) who might be interested in taking part in home communion for those in the church who aren’t able to be here for worship. For all those who have gotten back to me and for others who would like to take part, we will have an organizing meeting at 7:00PM on September 2, in the fellowship hall. We will briefly work out a plan to insure we are contacting everyone who would like to receive home communion. There may be some involved who will be in Choir rehearsal for this first meeting; we’ll be sure to be in touch with each of you, too.

## FROM THE INSIDE:

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...do you love Me?...

Tend My sheep. —

**John 21:16**

Jesus said to look after His sheep, to see that they get nourished in the knowledge of Him. We

consider what we do in the way of Christian work as service, yet Jesus Christ calls service to be what we *are* to Him, not what we *do* for Him. Discipleship is based solely on devo-

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tion to Jesus Christ, not on following after a particular belief or doctrine. On the inside, Pete

## ATTENTION: WOMEN

You are invited to join the Norma Siria Circle in a Bible Study “Come to the Waters” to learn the Biblical role water has in nourishing our bodies and our souls.

We are meeting Monday, September 14, at 9:30 AM

in the fellowship hall for coffee, friendship and study.

Norma Siria



Circle

## JOB DESCRIPTION FOR CHRISTIANS

As a follower of Jesus, you'll share his love and gospel with everyone. Kindness and humility are vital as you speak about your hope in him. To battle evil, you'll receive a complete set of armor. Use it to defend against attacks by a prowling lion or the temptation to place self above others.

Preferred qualifications:

- complete surrender to God

- a desire to follow his commandments
- a servant heart
- courage to face fiery furnaces or shipwrecks

Everyone's welcome, and training and support are provided. Though you can expect persecution and ad-

versity, the rewards are life-changing — and eternal!

- Mary Ann Sundby

## September Birthdays & Anniversaries

1st	Jerry Klym		Rhonda Gordon
2nd	Jim & Ruth Hendrix (A)	16th	Larry & Rita Peyton (A)
3rd	Bud and Chrissy Barker (A)	17th	Lottie Walker
4th	Ashlee Goodwin	18th	John & Erlene Ewing (A)
	Sierra Walker		David & Mary Ann Thomas (A)
8th	Monty & Angie Crawford (A)	20th	Amy Taylor
11th	Carroll Steinfeld	27th	Marge Wilkerson
14th	Sharon Davis	29th	Bud Barker
	Mike & Lisa Ladd (A)		
15th	Aaron Taylor		

### WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ARE BACK!

- 5:15 Fellowship Supper**
- 6:00 Children and Youth Programs**
- Adult Bible Study**
- (Nursery is provided)**
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal**

# September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7PM Session Meeting	2 5:15 Mission Fund Raiser Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	3	4 WKCC Great Banquet	5
6	7 	8 7PM Great Banquet Team Meetings	9 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal Intercessory Prayer Mtg	10	11 Girl's Y.E.S. Weekend	12
13	14 9:30AM Norma Siria Circle 7PM Great Banquet Team Meetings	15	16 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	17	18	19
20	21 7PM Great Banquet Team Meetings	22	23 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	24	25 MCDC Great Banquet #9	26 9AM Walk for Life
27	28 7PM Great Banquet Team Meetings	29	30 5:15 Youth FundRaiser 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal			

## YOUTH NEWS:

Our first fundraiser for the youth groups this year is September 30<sup>th</sup> with our Soup & Sandwich meal plus homemade desserts. If you're interested in helping out we would greatly appreciate it. And thanks for all the support and encouragement you've given us for so long! Contact Rob if you want to make something to contribute.



# YOUTH NEWS



## “OVER-CHURCHED AND UNDERWHELMED”

I borrowed that statement from a pastor in Nashville, Darren Whitehead. I've been watching and reading some from the website Qideas.org. It's a movement that came out of the research Gabe Lyons and David Kinnaman did in the book “Unchristian”. And it intrigues me to see where others are in their pursuit of God and living out that purpose in real life. Is the church impacting the culture in a positive way or just in a negative way? How are we doing? That statement I believe has a huge impact and could be very reflective of a lot of communities that may have several churches but few followers of Christ.

Over churching may reflect those who have always done the church thing but not necessarily for the right reason. Sunday worship, Wednesday Bible study, serving on GB teams, ministering to the jail, mission trips, local missions, VBS and doing youth group may be on the schedule but what's truly the matters of the heart. Mike Ladd just shared with us about a trip to Jamaica to serve on a team and he

was asked, “What is your motivation for being here.” What is our motivation? Are we motivated out of gratitude or shame? Do we do whatever we do for acclaim or with humility? Do we truly recognize the object of our faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit or are we just trying to keep commands better than the status quo?

Jesus challenged listeners to hear what they had been told and live out that faith. In Matthew's Gospel account we read Jesus referring to what He spoke through the prophet Hosea, “For I delight in loyalty rather than sacrifice, And in the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.” Hosea 6: 6. Jesus was challenging the folks of the church to live it out truly with all their heart, mind, soul and strength not to just go through the motions of faith but rather have a faith that shapes every aspect of who you are. And it's okay if people look at you like your weird and it's okay if you're part of the minority because it's been like that for a long, long time. Our loyalty is to God and our lives reflect that. That is why

our desire for justice and mercy is motivated by how we have been justified by what Christ did for us in His sacrifice and we are growing in that knowledge and faith daily. So let's wake up and be overwhelmed by the majesty of our Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer and King. God is good, all the time and all the time, God is good!

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8

In Christ's Love,

Rob

Romans 12

Want to see more of what I'm talking about go to Qideas.org and investigate all they have. Or maybe you want to be involved with having Q Commons in Madisonville to address what issues we have that could be changed.

## ON THE PRECIOUS-NESS OF LIFE...

I'm guessing most of you have heard about (if not viewed) the shocking undercover videos of abuse within the organization of Planned Parenthood. How are we to respond as Christians? We each have to determine for ourselves what our attitudes and actions might be. What is offered here are my thoughts...

We've been anesthetized to the idea that 'black lives matter' and the battle with that thought juxtaposed with 'all lives matter.' I don't know your feelings on that controversy, but as the political debate goes on there, I'm reminded by God's Word that, even beyond lives 'mattering,' every life is *precious*...at least to God. God said in Genesis 1:27 that we all are created in His image. Every human has the stamp of God's image. The tiniest of babies, yet unborn, who would rest comfortably on your fingertip, is an image bearer. Not even

angels have that distinction!

This is why taking a human life is a big deal in Scripture. Not only is it a crime because life is precious, but because human life has God-likeness breathed into him or her. Let that sink in...

As a Christian, I feel called to pray for change in the whole abortion industry...

I pray that "precious child" may once again define the value God places on each person, not the monetary value arrived at over lunch or in a board room...

I pray, too, that I and others might do more than talk. Our theology requires more of us than words. Door of Hope offers free pregnancy test and ultrasound, education and counseling, all free and all confidential. Their focus is on women with unexpected or unwanted pregnancies.



You can support Door of Hope through prayer, by volunteering, or participating financially. On September 26 we can all join in the Door of Hope Walk for Life. Folks will gather on that Saturday morning at First United Methodist Church at 9:00AM to show their support. This is one of only two annual fundraisers for their ministry.

Please consider what God is saying to you on this vital topic. Precious lives matter, and every life is precious to God.

RevLon

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

It's been a few years now since we have formally had an intercessors group. Don't you think it would be a good thing to reform again? Lifting those on our rather large prayer list on a regular basis, interceding for the needs of those who call in or leave a blue prayer card, sharing in our thanksgiving of praise reports...If you are interested in taking part, please meet in the fellowship hall at

7:00PM on September 9. We'll plan the best times/places to meet on a regular basis. If you are a choir member and cannot make this meeting, let RevLon know and we'll keep you informed.

**First Presbyterian Church**

P O Box 568  
260 W McLaughlin Ave  
Madisonville KY 42431

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