

Bulletin

June 2, 2024

For The Church



Do you find it hard to spend time with God? When I read the story of Jesus and how he lived his life I see numerous examples of him retreating from the crowds, his friends, and his disciples in order to spend time with God. He often does this at night while his disciples are sleeping, but Jesus finds incredible value in retreating to spend alone time with God.

If Jesus is our rabbi and we are to follow Him and act just like him as an apprentice to a rabbi would do, then why don't we spend more alone time with God? Ruth Haley Barton in *An Invitation to Retreat* says, "Retreat in the context of the spiritual life is an extended time apart for the purpose of being with God and giving God our full and undivided attention;" it is, - "a generous commitment to our friendship with God."

Spending alone time with God daily is vital to our spiritual growth. This practice allows us to focus completely on God and what God is saying to us in that moment. This time needs to be devoid of distractions. That means putting down your phone, in fact, not bringing your phone would be a better option. This sometimes means we have to retreat when no one else is awake or needing our attention in the moment. It is intentional time away with God.

We should also plan a spiritual retreat every year (maybe more than one) where we spend time in silence with God, devoid of distractions (again no technology), for a full twenty-four hour period, or maybe even more. We need to retreat to be with God just like our rabbi, Jesus, did during his time on this earth. Allow yourself time to retreat into the presence of God.

In Our Prayers

Emersyn Milton
Thomas Pruitt
Elmer Schuette
Carol Gingrich
Madison Cole
Susan Mayer (Chet's sister)

Audie Thornburg
Shari Soukup
Zeb Carter
Juanita (Abby's Mother)
Rick Toland
Tim Taylor

Girard and Marilyn Holinde
Courtney Emery
Brenda Staub
Dwight Huston
SMC Early Session (starts today)
Becky Carter

Upcoming Events

Potluck [Today]

Please join us after worship today for our monthly potluck! Stay and enjoy the good food and fellowship!

Save the Date:

June 2-8 - SMC Early Session (This Week)

June 9 - Young Family Ministry (Stafford)

July 7-13 - SMC First Session

July 14 - Young Family Ministry (St. John)

July 14-20 - SMC Second Session

July 21-27 - SMC Third Session

Birthdays this week:

Mason Sallee - June 6

Jerry Kinnamon - June 8



Worship Order

Welcome Table & Greeters: Darrel & Shannon Bauer

Song Leader: Malachi Meador

Sound System: Orrin Feril

Gathering: We Praise Thee, Oh God

Welcome: Orrin Feril

VBS Drama: Teens

Scripture Reading: VBS Kids (Colossians 1:13)

Song: Oh, How I Love Jesus (VBS Kids)

Song: Jesus Loves Me (in Swahili - VBS Kids)

Shepherd's Prayer: Tom Turner

Song: Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?

Communion: Carl Feril

Song: O Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Song: Step by Step

Lesson: Ben Meador

Song: To Canaan's Land I'm On My Way

Closing Prayer: Chris Stott

Sundays: Bible classes for all ages @ 10:00 am
Worship service for everyone @ 11:00 am

Elders: Tom Turner, Richard Brensing, Terry Sallee, Carl Feril

Deacons: Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril, Zachary Marks

Minister: Zeborah Carter