

Connect

The Sanctuary Church's Weekly E-newsletter

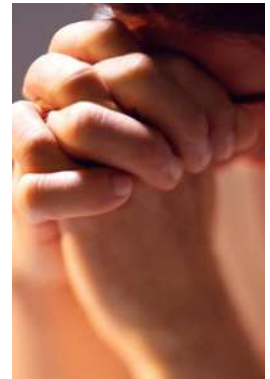
Connect supplies information about events that you can attend to strengthen your faith in Jesus and fulfill God's plans and purposes for your life.



This Sunday morning Tom will be teaching on "Being an Influence - Salt and Light Part 2." Come discover how important we as individuals are to God's plan in the world we live in. ~ *Invite a friend!*

Please, pray for:

- ⇒ God's touch on those who visited us at the recent Bar-B-Q
- ⇒ Health, strength and protection for the Sanctuary congregation.
- ⇒ Direction for the plans for the new semester.
- ⇒ **Ralph** as His apostolic ministry develops and as he continues to teach us once a month and helps us in many ways.
- ⇒ **Don**, Louise's brother, as he continues to recover from his recent motorcycle accident
- ⇒ **Cheryl**, Don's wife, who is in hospital with multiple organ failure. That the doctors would know what's wrong and why and for a complete recovery
- ⇒ **Aarron**, Louise's Niece, who is suffering from severe epilepsy and other health issues and is struggling to raise her daughter while being continuously bed-ridden.
- ⇒ **Neil**, Louise's cousin, who continues to recover after multiple surgeries on a shattered ankle.
- ⇒ **Gerald**, Louise's Uncle, who is 94 and needs turn back to Jesus.
- ⇒ **Friends** of Elizabeth's who are facing difficulties in their lives and relationships
- ⇒ **Jeremy**, Marg's grandson, who needs guidance and a relationship with Jesus
- ⇒ **Elijah**, Marilyn's nephew, who has just given his life to Christ and needs discipleship and support.
- ⇒ **Cyndy**, Marilyn's sister, that she would see the change in Elijah and give her life to Christ as well.
- ⇒ **Karen's Mom**, as she faces a great deal of pain in the months ahead.
- ⇒ **Elizabeth**, as she flies to Edmonton to see another jaw surgeon in hopes of fixing the problems in her jaw.



Have you given a prayer request recently, please email Elizabeth and update your prayer request or change them. Lets agree together for miracles in our loved ones lives. Don't give up keep on praying!! Thanks!

Kidz Klub

Thanks to everyone who came out to Monday Night Football! The kids had lots of fun! See you tomorrow night at Rosemont park. Don't forget to bring a water bottle, runners and dress warmly!

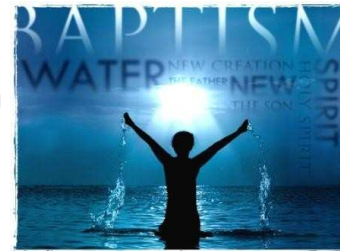
Also, If you didn't make it out to last Monday night, there is still a chance to register!

Painting For God's Glory restarts Wednesday, Sept. 8th at 1:30p.m. This group meets at Louise's house. They seek God's direction for what and how to paint. If you are interested in joining please give Louise a call at 536-9573.



Following in Jesus' Footsteps resumes Tuesday, September 7th at 7:30p.m. at Marg Iverson's. Each week we will study an event in Jesus' life. Our goal is to get to know Jesus better. There is a strong emphasis on fellowship and prayer as well. This group is designed to bring friends to. It does not matter if the person is saved or not. It will benefit mature Christians and seekers alike. This group will be meeting at Calvin and Lawrie's house. If you have any questions please give Louise a call.

Wednesday, September 8th at 7:30 p.m. Louise will be continuing the baptism classes. If you are interested in being baptized or know someone who is, please give Louise a call if you have not already done so.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Friday, September 10th at 1:30 p.m. there will be a Sunday School Teachers Meeting at Marg's house. Please come prepared to discuss ideas and plans for the coming year and the new class. If you are unable to attend please call Louise and let her know.

We will be having a wedding shower for Tammy Saturday, September 18th at 3:00 p. m. (please note time is different than on calendar). The shower will be at Naomi's house. If you are able to help with any of the planning or decorating please let Louise know as soon as possible. We ask that every one please bring a plate of something to share at the shower. Please remember not to bring anything that contains nuts.



Pastors Page



Dear Friends,

Summer is winding down with its relaxed schedules and special events. There are so many things we try to crowd into each beautiful day. God has blessed us so richly with the beauty and colour around us. I think that we here on the prairies with our long cold winters try to squeeze as much living into the few warm months as we can. Many people including myself try so hard to get extra things done in the summer that by September when school starts again we are exhausted.

It is almost with relief that we welcome September as it brings the normal structures and schedules back into our lives.

In the church September brings back our discussion groups and Bible Studies.

I am really looking forward to the fellowship and encouragement that the various church groups bring. The summer has been short in some ways but it seems long when I think of the feeling of missing the interaction with my church family.

Something that we may have relaxed on during the summer are our spiritual disciplines by which we hope our relationship with God will grow. Disciplines such as daily Bible study and prayer, quiet times when we listen to God, and reading spiritually inspiring books.

While I personally don't believe in discipline for discipline's sake I have noticed that if we slack off in our Bible reading it has the same effect on our spiritual life as slacking off on physical exercise has on our bodies. We begin to lack the spiritual muscle tone that we would like to have.

As we enter a new season it is important to think and pray about what God would have us do for our devotions. What will draw us closer to Him—singing in the spirit, listening to Him, reading our Bibles or praying for each other? All of these things are good and important but what is the most effective in helping us relate to God? We need to make the best use of our time.

On a fellowship level what can we do to build each other up? Social events and small groups all have great potential but what works best for us?

On a third level of preparing to serve God what will equip us best to be able to use our gifts and fulfill the prophetic calling we have?

Finally what can we do to serve God in and outside the church? What will our ministry be? How can we serve God?

This week please take some time to prayerfully answer these questions and think about optimizing your spiritual life and ministry this year.

God Bless you as you seek His guidance.

~ Louise

Preacher's Page



If you are like me you have wondered just what Jesus was talking about when He called His disciples Salt and Light in Matthew 5:13-16

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

I have read these verses many times and wondered just what being Salt and Light was. I even tried to the best of my ability to be what I thought Jesus meant when He called us this. Until recently I had never really understood what Jesus was talking about. I began to look at what salt was used for in the lives of the people Jesus was talking to. Being salt didn’t mean we were to make life taste better for people. It was used as a preservative.

Jesus was calling us to be a preservative in our society. He was calling us to be a moral barometer in the world we live in. Not so that we could judge the lives of those around us, but so they could see a better way to live in our lifestyle. Jesus was asking us to live our faith for the world to see, and to be ready to give a reason for the hope that we have. He was calling us to be an influence on the world around us. Jesus knew that no amount of preaching would be effective if the people couldn’t see that we live what we preach. People need an example that they can see and follow.

Jesus was also saying that we are able to preserve people as well. In the story of Sodom and Gomorrah God was going to punish these cities because as the Bible says they were unusually wicked. This is also recorded by historians. Abraham pleads for mercy for the cities because Lot lived there. After talking with Abraham God says He will not destroy the cities if He can find 10 righteous people in them. It was sad that God could not find 10 righteous people so the cities were destroyed but not before God got the righteous people out of the city. The point was that God was willing to spare them for the sake of the righteous people who worshipped Him.

I never connected this story to Jesus’ comments about being salt before. Abraham was being salt in his world. We have all wondered at times why people get away with so much in our world. I have heard the comment many times “If God is so just, why doesn’t He deal with these people?” And I have come to learn what Abraham knew. With God a little bit of righteousness goes a long, long way.

God is not wanting anyone to perish. 2 Peter 3:9

“The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.”

When God looks at the world, He does see the wrongs being done in our society. But the presence of those who know Him personally allows Him to withhold judgment. God wants everyone to come to know Him and He sees the wicked people in our world, but He also sees the righteous. We are able to make a difference in our world just by living out our faith for the world to see. With God a little bit of righteousness, or salt, goes a long, long way. And God knows that salt always makes a difference.

We are important in God’s plan. Each one of us is able to make a difference if we will accept the call of Jesus to be salt in our society, to be an influence in the world around us. God loves and values people very deeply. We are not insignificant to God. We are important and able to make a difference. Remember that a little bit of salt goes a long, long way, and salt always makes a difference.



Evangelism Secret #2

I am an introvert. Those who see me minister don't believe this about me but it is true. I have simply, over the years, learned how to be extroverted when ministering and wherever necessary. But, my basic personality is an extreme introvert. I prize quiet time alone where I can read and write, journal and pray and thus recharge my personal internal batteries.

Therefore, when I am out and about doing daily

life - filling the car with gas, grocery shopping, banking, walking the dog - I work hard at coming out of my introvertedness (is there even such a word?) and being open and friendly with people I come into contact with. I do more than look for openings - I make them. I start conversations with almost every person I am able to - clerks, others at the same checkout counter or cash till, the bank teller, people walking dogs ... I find ways to start a conversation and keep that conversation interesting and moving forward. Often I have opportunity to speak about Jesus with these people. Maybe it does not happen the first time but if you use the same gas station, the same bank, the same grocery store, the same path to walk your dog you find yourself running in to the same people over and over again. So, you can build on what you have learned or said the times before.

As an introvert I have learned some simple "tricks" to get things started. One of them that comes naturally is found in the acrostic of the word "**form**"... I simply remember the word "form" and ask questions centered around this word... (This idea was picked up from a book by Ron Puryear)

F - Family - everyone has one and most people are thrilled to have someone ask about their family.

O - Occupation - even retired people do something in their life - and as a job (volunteer or paid) takes up a substantial part of every person's life this is a good place to go in the conversation.

R - Recreation - almost everyone does something for exercise and to unwind. In my neighborhood there are many homes with large boats parked in front or out back ... be observant and ask about what they do in their free time.

M - Message - Everyone has something on their heart to share. A cause they believe deeply in, a group they belong to, even something they believe is a "life cause" that they have dedicated time to (the environment, hockey moms, the local SPCA, Save the Whales...).

As an introvert I often simply remember "form" and move forward initiating a conversation with one or more of these four topics. These allow me to get them talking about their favorite subject - themselves. And, it allows me to find or make openings to talk about my favorite subject - Jesus!

~ Ralph