

Food for Thought

- ❖ When followers of Christ lose their interest in Heaven, they will no longer be happy Christians, and...cannot be a powerful force in a sad and sinful world. ~ A W Tozer
- ❖ It is not enough to believe God is trustworthy. You must hold that whatever proceeds from Him is sacred and inviolable truth. ~ John Calvin
- ❖ He may look on death with joy, who can look on forgiveness with faith. ~ Thomas Watson
- ❖ If a commission by an earthly king is considered an honor, how can a commission by a Heavenly King be considered a sacrifice? ~ David Livingstone
- ❖ Let those by thy choicest companions who have made Christ their chief companion. ~ Thomas Brooks
- ❖ If God is God, then He is the ultimate authority who deserves our trust, not our doubts. ~ Randy Alcorn
- ❖ God is not otherwise to be enjoyed than He is obeyed. ~ John Howe



Faith Community Church
1110 E. Cass Street
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821



February 2019

mission

The mission of our church is to
glorify Christ,
proclaim the Gospel,
reach the lost,
and train and instruct
Christians in the faith
for service and daily living.

The Voice of Faith newsletter is a publication of Faith Community Church (an Evangelical Free church). Editor is Sharon Meier. Sunday Worship is at 10:15 a.m. Website is www.faithchurchpdc.org Visitors are very much welcome!

The



of
Faith

Speaking the truth in love

Faith Community Church
(an Evangelical Free church)

Volume 28 Number 2

FEBRUARY 2019

Preventable Disaster

by Pastor Kevin Dick

A strange and tragic event occurred 100 years ago. On January 16, 1919, in Boston, Massachusetts, a fifteen-foot wall of molasses rushed down the streets of the city's North End neighborhood. The molasses moved quickly and dangerously so that twenty-one people died and over a hundred were injured. A giant tank of molasses ruptured and exploded causing a huge catastrophe.

"...we need to speak to others of the hope of the gospel..."

Molasses has been a prominent in Boston since colonial days. It was used in cooking, especially for baked beans, pies, and bread. It was also the main ingredient in the production of rum, the alcoholic beverage. But the enormous amount which caused all the damage was being used for industrial alcohol. When distilled it was used as a key ingredient in the production of ammunition, especially dynamite and other explosives. Historically, the United States had not entered World War 1, but demand was high as the country was ready to enter the conflict in Europe.

In a hurry to increase production demands, a huge tank was constructed without the proper engineering designs and testing before being forced into usage. The tank was meant to hold over 2 million gallons but was never tested with water beforehand. Instead, a gradual filling of the tank with molasses began and was deemed ready to be filled.

People living nearby told of hearing threatening sounds from the tank as it was filled.

Also, parents sent their children to fill their cans from liquid leaking out of the storage unit. Then on that fateful day, over the lunch hour, an explosion of sorts took place with a loud noise, and molasses poured out into nearby streets. Buildings were destroyed, and people were killed and injured.

While this is a sad, yet interesting event, it seems that it was preventable if more attention were given to details and concern

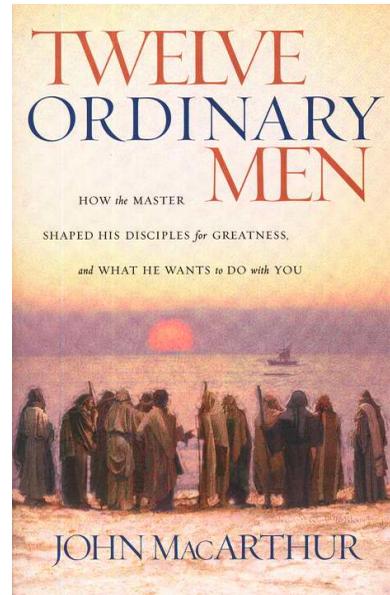
for others. As believers living in this fallen world, we need to evaluate whether we are giving enough attention to the needs of others in their spiritual condition.

There are two spiritual applications. First, as believers, we need to speak to others of the hope of the gospel through Jesus Christ which gives assurance to keep people from eternal disaster. Our desire is to warn people of God's judgment of sin. Death may come suddenly for any of us, but for the believer in Jesus as personal Savior and Lord, our eternal destiny is secure in Jesus' promises. A second lesson which seems obvious but must not be overlooked, is that there is no shortage of ways in which we can encounter disaster. Our only certain security and safety rests upon the unchanging Word of God and the salvation God provides through Jesus Christ. The Christian's life can be a witness preparing people for possible disaster, and also living with confidence God has given assurances of eternal life after physical death.



Saturday, February 16, 5:30-8:30

Men 18 years and older are invited to come for a great meal, fellowship, and Bible study. We are starting a new series taken from the book by John MacArthur shown below. Sign up to get your copy and also a study guide. The sign-up sheet is at the Information Center in the church lobby. See George Schneider for more details.



Discipleship 101 Class is offered to teens and adults each Sunday morning from 9-10 in the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!



Take Stock

OK... question - do you consider yourself an 'average', 'typical', 'everyday' Christian? So how is this defined? Seriously. How is this defined, how do you know typical and average? More importantly... is this how you want to define yourself? Why would you want this designation? Is this a case of doing the minimum in order to secure the eternal?

I know that sounded harsh. Perhaps it's a kind of 'wake up' call to all of us. Stop just a moment and take a look at the world. Yours may be a fantastic life, or it may be one full of stress and anguish. Not the point. The point is always you - who you are, what you do with your life, and how you go about being you in your world. So... are you becoming all the Lord has for you and then sharing this with the world you inhabit?

We all need to take stock every once in awhile in order to assess how we've grown and how we've honored the One who has made this all possible. Don't focus on what you haven't done in the past, but commit yourself to today and the future - to be and share all that you are. If you ask the Lord to give you opportunities to share Him, trust me - He will. It can start with a casual conversation with a friend or a co-worker or... We need only have the mindset that we want to be of value to the One who has given us life... abundantly.

Be encouraged!

You can read more of Carolyn's thoughts at <http://yourthoughtsandbeliefs.blogspot.com/>



Solitary Confinement

by Sharon Meier

I went to see someone today who was on my schedule. I was told he was "in seg" (that is short for "segregation" and otherwise known as "the hole"). These are all terms used for time spent in solitary confinement, generally due to a person's misbehavior but sometimes for protective or investigative reasons. I have no idea what the reasons were for this particular man, but I was unable to visit him there.

In segregation, an inmate usually wears bright orange scrubs, plastic orange shoes, handcuffs, and shackles. He has to be escorted by one or two officers anywhere he goes outside his cell. He loses any privileges he might have had such as watching TV, listening to the radio, calling home, having any personal belongings, mingling with others, spending time in recreation, or having visitors. He is, however, allowed to read...and take time to think.

Because this man was unavailable to visit, I spent that time with someone else who, in his past, had done considerable time "in seg". He says it was during those periods of isolation, when everything was taken away, that God got his attention. When he called out in desperation, hopelessness, bondage, pain, and loneliness - the Lord showed him the way of grace and truth. He is now a faithful follower of Jesus Christ.

It seems that when we are the most broken is where we are most aware of our need. That, in turn, propels us toward seeking God's help, and opens us up to Him in ways that easy living can never do. Solitary confinement, seg, the hole all can be and have been "divine appointments" for many an inmate to come face-to-face with the living God who saves, redeems, transforms, heals, and delivers. In other words, it can be the door that leads to eternal life and endless joy.

Are you feeling like you are in "solitary confinement"? If so, it may just be a divine appointment. Think about it.

<https://www.facebook.com/PrisonFellowshipWisconsin>

Eating Your Way to a Better Mood

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?"

Psalm 27:1

Dutch researchers have concluded that you can indeed eat your way to a better mood. It's not how much you eat, and in some cases the secret is what you don't eat...

Dutch researchers were investigating tryptophan, which the brain uses to make serotonin, a neurotransmitter that improves your mood. They prepared two chocolate drinks, one that contained a milk protein rich in tryptophan and another with casein, another milk protein. Volunteers who had been pre-evaluated for their susceptibility for stress drank one or the other of these with breakfast and again later in the morning. At mid-day, the volunteers spent 20 minutes at a computer doing math problems as loud industrial noise blared in the background. Researchers then evaluated each subject's mood, pulse rate, stress hormones and brain serotonin levels. None of the subjects who had the tryptophan-rich chocolate drink showed any stress factor, no matter how prone to stress they naturally were. Other research has shown that sugar or starch-rich foods also raise serotonin in the brain. Researchers concluded that simple diet modifications that include tryptophan prior to expected times of stress can help the average person respond to stress. They also warn that meat protein blocks the brain's absorption of tryptophan.

While we can cast all our fears and frustrations on the Lord, it is good to know that He has provided us with a way to better cope with nagging, daily stress.

~ written by Pastor Paul Bartz www.creationmoments.com



Dave & Joyce Johnson
NEXT International
serving the Lord
worldwide



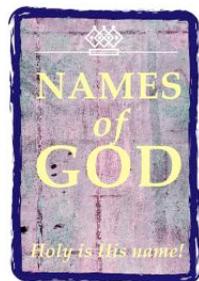
Where Two or More are Gathered

by Helen "Jenny" Peak



As the end times are approaching,
and Christ's return is nigh,
Let's gather in sweet fellowship
in the Name of our God on high.
Let's visit both saints and sinners,
and talk about the Lord.
We'll tell what Jesus does for us;
find treasures in His Word.
We'll discuss how things are going,
getting darker all the time;
Then we'll comfort one another
for His love, in darkness, shines.
We'll speak at length about the Rapture
of the bride of Jesus Christ,
When He'll gather up His loved ones,
we the pearl of greatest price.
We'll rejoice in the gathering together
to meet Jesus in the clouds,
When we'll wing through Satan's kingdom.
Can't you hear his shriek so loud?
As Satan sees us safely go
through his evil, darksome lair,
How he will rage and threaten,
but in his heart despair.
For he sees his fate approaching
when he'll be gathered in
To face eternal judgment
brought about by his great sin.
So let us gather in Christ's holy Name
as He Himself has bid;
For where two or more are gathered,
He is there within their midst!

We will sing of Jesus' power
that will bring us safely home
Through these dangerous unknown places,
for He loves and guards His own.
We'll speak of all the battles won
at a place called Calvary;
How God the Father planned it,
and the Son went willingly.
Come, converse of Jesus
and His loving sacrifice;
Of His resurrection power,
of His coming in a trice;
Of His creation, New Jerusalem,
new Heaven and new Earth,
And of how we are a part of this
because of our new birth!
All these things we'll speak of
and many more besides.
The Bible is inexhaustible
for it speaks of Jesus Christ!
And sinner, we'll rejoice in telling you
the plan of salvation,
And introducing you
to the Lord of all creation.
So, as the end times are approaching,
and Christ's return is nigh,
Let's gather in sweet fellowship
in the Name of our God on high.
Let's gather in Christ's holy Name
as He Himself has bid;
For where two or more are gathered,
He is there within their midst.



Elohei Kedem

The Ancient God

The eternal God is your refuge,
and His everlasting arms are
under you.
He drives out the enemy
before you;
He cries out, 'Destroy them!'
Deuteronomy 33:27 NLT

IF WE LOVE
ONE ANOTHER,
GOD
LIVES IN US
AND HIS
LOVE
IS MADE
COMPLETE IN US.

1 JOHN 4:12, NIV



Faith Kids' BIRTHDAYS!



February

- 5 William Miller
- 8 Ben Haug
- 10 Matthew Knight
- 16 Caleb Gruber
- 21 Brad Haug
- 22 Carter Aspenson



One Way Club will continue to collect pennies in our penny jars to be donated to Gospel for Asia. This is a very worth while project that provides families with goats, sheep, chickens or cows that can feed their family or provide a source of income for the future. The children will choose an animal according to the amount of money collected.

If school is cancelled for the day due to weather, Family Night Activities will also be cancelled. Any weather related cancellations for church events can also be viewed on the church's website www.faithchurchpdc.org or on our Facebook page faith church one way club & bridge group or by calling the church office at 608-326-6959. Feel free to share our Facebook page with your friends and invite them to clubs.

PUZZLE

WITH LOVE FROM ABOVE

The Bible is full of special words from our loving God.

Directions: Using the messages on the candy hearts, complete the Bible verses (all NIV) below.

God is our _____ and _____,
an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1

"Surely I am with you _____." Matthew 28:20

And the _____ of God ... will guard
your hearts and your minds in
_____. Philippians 4:7

Whoever lives in _____ lives in God,
and God in them. 1 John 4:16

_____ love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18

Answer: refuge, strength, always, peace, Christ Jesus, love, Perfect

ONE WAY CLUB SCHEDULE

Date	Theme	Lesson
Feb 6	Bring a Friend	Jesus met Nicodemus
Feb 13	Wear red and/or pink	Jesus & John the Baptist
Feb 20	No Meal	No Clubs
Feb 27	Career Night	Jesus met a Samaritan woman

February 2019

Faith Community Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JESUS SAID, "YOUR LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER WILL PROVE TO THE WORLD THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES." JOHN 13:35 NLT						
3 Community Needs Fund Communion 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 10:15 AM Worship 3:00 PM Bible Reading	4 8:15 AM Fresh Start Fitness 6:30 PM Prayer Time 7:30 PM Elder Board meeting	5 Bulletin Deadline 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM One Way Club, Bridge & Youth	6 Bulletin Deadline 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM One Way Club, Bridge & Youth	7 8:15 AM Fresh Start Fitness	8 	9 5:30 PM Guys Night Out 
10 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 10:15 AM Worship 3:00 PM Bible Reading	11 8:15 AM Fresh Start Fitness 6:30 PM Prayer Time	12 6:30 PM Trustee Board Meeting	13 Bulletin Deadline 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM One Way Club, Bridge & Youth	14 8:15 AM Fresh Start Fitness 	15 	16 5:30 PM Guys Night Out 
17 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 10:15 AM Worship 3:00 PM Bible Reading	18 6:30 PM Prayer Time	19 Bulletin Deadline NO MEAL OR CLUBS	20 Bulletin Deadline NO MEAL OR CLUBS	21 	22 	23
24 Food Pantry Sunday 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 10:15 AM Worship 12:00 PM Potluck Lunch 3:00 PM Bible Reading	25 6:30 PM Prayer Time	26 Bulletin Deadline 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM One Way Club, Bridge & Youth	27 Bulletin Deadline 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM One Way Club, Bridge & Youth	28 	1 	2

February Volunteers



Date	Church Cleaning	Fellowship Time	Greeters	Ministry Highlight	Nursery	Trustee Duties	Ushers
3	Part One: Schneider Part Two: Collins	Peggy Dick	Nick & Laura Johnson	None	Merideth McClendon Sandy Goree	Mike Mullikin	Chad Gruber Caleb Gruber Jason Mathre Bob Meier
10	Part One: Meier Part Two: Gruber	Merideth McClendon	Nick & Laura Johnson	Men	Heather Saylor Allison Miller	Mike Mullikin	Chad Caleb Jason Bob
17	Part One: Saylor Part Two: Goree	Tina Leckliter	Nick & Laura Johnson	Worship	Diane Slotman Caleb Gruber	Mike Mullikin	Chad Caleb Jason Bob
24	Part One: Irish Part Two: Mathre*	Potluck Lunch	Nick & Laura Johnson	Students	Rachel Peak Miah Miller	Mike Mullikin	Chad Caleb Jason Bob