

Another Word

June 10, 2020

Dear friends and family of First Christian Church,

We hope you enjoyed the senior graduation service on June 7th. Please join me in wishing Ryann, Lauren, Rachel, and Alexis Hastings and Ryan Dull great success as they embark on the next phase of their lives. May God's love and blessings be with them always.

After prayer and discussion, we are pleased to announce that beginning Sunday June 21st, live services will begin at the pavilion. Worship will be at our usual time of 10:30. You may either sit at one of the tables or bring your own folding chairs. If you are feeling ill or have reservations about attending, please stay home. We truly understand.

We will continue services on our website for those unable to worship with us. In case of inclement weather, the service will be moved to the sanctuary. We hope to see you Father's Day, June 21st.

Pathways Hospice has announced that there will be a 6 week "bereavement support group" meeting starting in July and will be held at our church facility. Actual dates and time will be made known shortly. If you or someone you know may benefit from these meetings, please pass on the word, and have them contact the church for further information. (I am planning to attend)

Let us be grateful to our Lord, God, and Savior. Dear most Holy God, we praise and give glory to you and to you alone. You are the giver of life, and life in abundance. We take this moment to truly thank you for all you do. Please forgive us, when we at times forget you and try to take charge of our lives. The plans you have made for us come from your heart. They guide, instruct, and teach us. Our world seems to be

spinning out of control, yet we are bold enough to ask, “what can we do”, and “where can we help?” And yes, even “here am I, send me.” Show us what we, individually as well as together, can do to help our neighbors who are in trouble. Guide us and show us how to bring your love, faith, hope, and grace to a hurting and needing world. We pray to you in Jesus precious name, Amen

You may be asking yourself, “boy Rich, nice prayer and all, but how do you expect me to do anything, or reach out to anyone in this environment?” (here’s where you say, “wow, he read my mind”) It’s actually quite simple. Just let God work through you. He will direct you in ways you may never know.

As an example; I heard of a young boy who just loved to sing and dance. He was, as his mother said, always filled with joy, and made people around him smile and laugh. Each day, on his way home from school, he would sing and dance down the driveway.

On certain days, the garbage collectors would be there when the boy got home, and would watch him, and shake their heads in disbelief. But one day, mom saw something incredible. There on the driveway were both garbage collectors, dancing, singing, swaying, and stomping their way down the drive with her young son. His joy was so infectious, that they were inspired to dance with him. Their lives were touched and changed forever by a young boy’s simple expression of joy, and his love of life.

We either go through life with joy and a song in our hearts, or with a frown. We have so much in our lives to be thankful for. And because we are believers, God wants us to express to others, a side of life they may not know about. A life of peace, joy, and hope.

Let God direct you to whoever needs to hear and see your song. God knows even a person who has a seemingly hard and uncaring heart can be changed. And once they are changed, they will dance and sing into the life of someone they may know. It's like dropping a pebble into a pond. Once you reach out to someone, they in turn will reach out to another. That's part of the Great Commission; going and doing.

The world is in a very dark place right now. But you and I can add a little of Jesus' light to it. And only God knows where it will be passed on to, next.

In His Peace,

Rich