

The Encourager

"Making Jesus First in Our Lives"

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PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE: by Robert Shelton

Some people thrive on change but most of us do not. Yet change is an integral part of life. We live in a beautiful region of the country that experience four distinct seasons-all of differing lengths and intensities-but clearly distinguishable from one another. We watch our children/grand-children grow and mature; we would never want them to be "stuck" in a growth cycle. Relationships and marriages go through seasons very similar to what we see in nature. Of course, we experience various seasons in our spiritual lives. All of us should give thanks that in the midst of all this change, we have a constant - "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and yes forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

Our church is in a period of change as we are now searching for a youth pastor. During this interim time, I ask each of us to pray for our students to stay committed to Jesus and to stay involved in ministry activities and for God's clear direction as we search for a new Youth Pastor. The Personnel Committee is responsible for the search and will be recommending a job description and salary at the September 10 Business Session at 6 p.m. The committee members are Marilyn Hake (chairman), Jackie Tilford, Aaron Gudde, Terry Liles and Paulette Taylor.

The Youth Steering Committee is responsible for planning and overseeing activities during this time. The Committee members are Marnie (chairman) & Darrin Mitchell, Marilyn & Tim Hake, Kathy & Terry Liles, Carolyn & Bob Fitzpatrick, Teresa Scrivens.

YOUTH:

During the interim as we search for a Youth Pastor, Marilyn Hake will teach Youth Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9:15, Teresa Scrivens will lead Sunday Night Youth from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and Marnie and Darrin Mitchell will lead Wednesday Night Youth from 6:30-8:15 p.m.

There will be upcoming Girls' Night and Guys' Night in September. Our students plan to participate in SYATP on Wednesday, Sept. 27 by praying for their classmates and school around the flagpole beginning at 7:30 a.m.

PRESCHOOL NEWS: by Debbie Smith, director

Preschool started on Wednesday, Aug. 16. We have 25 MWF students (in two sessions) and 20 T-TH students (in one session).

The first month of school, we will get to know one another and establish some school routines and rules. Our readiness activities will mark our entry into the wonderful world of colors, shapes, numbers, and letters. We will be singing, painting, coloring, and playing. We will be learning about God's beautiful world.

We look forward to sharing a Great Year with each preschooler.

MUSIC: by Sandy Shelton, worship leader

Did you know there's SOOOO much more to being a Christian than just going to church? Did you know there's a big difference between being religious and having a relationship with Jesus Christ? Did you know that worshipping involves focusing all our attention on the ONLY ONE who deserves to be praised? GOD alone is worthy of this kind of attention. Yet we give so much more energy to many other things than our relationship with God. Last Sunday in Sunday School we talked about thirsting for the Lord. Psalm 42:1, 2a, "As the deer pants for the water brooks, so my soul pants for Thee, O God. My soul thirst for God, the for living God." Do you thirst for the Lord? Do you have to have Him like you would a drink of water when you were coming from the heat of the day? The songs we sing on Sunday are meant to draw us closer to Him, to remind us of what The Lord has done for us and to express our love and praise to Him. What can we do to have a better relationship with Christ?

AWANA: by Terry Liles

AWANA starts on September 6th with our annual kick off night. We will have hot dogs, chips, and drinks for all the AWANA Clubbers and their families. Parents please plan to stay with your AWANA Clubber to get them signed up, get their AWANA gear, and have a hot dog or two with them. Regular AWANA Club nights will start of September 13th. Please pray for the AWANA ministry and especially for all our AWANA Clubbers this year. Our hope and prayer is that lives will be changed for eternity through this ministry. If you are interested in helping with AWANA, please contact us. Come join the fun each week!

JOYFUL NOISE: by Danielle Schmitt

JOYFUL NOISE will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 13th at 5:00 PM. Dinner will be provided at 6:00 PM for those staying for AWANA and for our youth that are helping. We are asking for donations, monetarily or otherwise for this ministry. Please contact me by text (816-726-5811) to see how you can help.

WMU: by Margaret Stevens

Thank you for giving generously to the Christmas in August collection for new Women's Shelter opening this fall here in Plattsburg.

The month of September brings us the Apple Festival on Sept. 9 in Raymore. The quilts and craft items we made will be auctioned for the benefit of the Missouri Baptist Children's Home Ministries.

Missouri on Mission will be our mission focus this month as we collect for MMO. We will learn more about the many ways our offerings are used: Disaster Relief, Children's Home Ministries, Summer Missionaries, Ethnic Churches, Next Step Requests are on the prayer calendar this year. Be sure to pick up the weekly handouts to learn more about what is happening in Missouri.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING will be held Sept. 23, Oct.21st& Nov.18th from 10 AM to 2 PM in room 100 at the Plattsburg High School. Anyone who is interested in learning how to share your faith with others and grow as a disciple is encouraged to attend.

Happy Birthday to Members and their families: 1-Andrew Tudorowski, Dawn Peterson & Charles Wolven 5-Sandy Shelton, Susan McMillian & Christi Bowman 7-Luke Shelton, Diego Ortiz & Lawrence Mick 9- Chesnie Umphreys 10-Autumn Bradford 12-Taylor Hartzell 13-Doris Morgan 14-LaDonna Morgan 17-Baylee Schubert & Roger Webber 18-Melana Kimmel, Mariah Peterson Cassidy Florence 19-Misty Reinbold 21-Katelyn DeFord & Bill Burnich 22-Vanessa Wright 23-Logan Cusick & Danielle Schmitt 25-Kaegen Roberts 26-Emma Lile 27-Dena Davis 28-Lester Hash 30-Linda Logan & Tryce Bentsen

SEPTEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Sunday Fall Schedule</u> 8:00-9:00 AM Worship 9:15-10:15 AM Bible Study 10:30-11:35 AM Worship 6:30 PM Youth					1	2
3 1:30 Oakridge	4	5	6 <i>AWANA Registration & hot dog dinner 6:30-8:15 PM</i>	7 2:00 PM WMU	8	9 <i>7:30 AM Christian Men's Breakfast-First Christian Church</i>
10 5:30 PM Ch. Council 6:00 PM Business- Deacons to follow 6:00 PM HBA Semi- Annual Mtg in Lathrop	11	12	13 See fall schedule	14 <i>7:00 PM Night WMU</i>	15	16
17 8:45-9:15 AM SS Breakfast-Mitchell Class Host	18	19	20 See fall schedule	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 <i>7:30 AM See You At the Pole</i> See fall schedule	28	29	30
		<u>Wednesday Fall Schedule</u> 4:00 & 7:00 PM Adult Prayer & Bible Study 6:30-8:15 PM Youth 6:30-8:15 PM AWANA 8:15 PM Ensemble				