



THE TRUMPETER

First United Methodist Church of Shattuck, Oklahoma Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

September 2016

Why Give to the Church?

Several years ago I was asked by a member of a congregation I was serving that very question. Fresh out of seminary I spouted off all the correct theological answers and quoted the scripture that supported my answers. Well guess what happened? Nothing! The person was not persuaded by my answer to their question. I did not convince that person, that is was important to give to the church. Now over my years in the ministry that lack of response has troubled me. Why did that person not want to give back to God through the church what God had already given?

Perhaps you've asked that question to yourself. Why give to the Church? I may ask the question; "Why don't you give to the Church?" Recently I had a person share with me that they would love to give to the church but times are hard now. I totally agree that times are difficult and there seems to be uncertainty about the future. Yet, each year giving to charitable organizations goes up but giving to the church stands level or declines. Why! Let me share three reasons why.

A few years ago I went to a workshop geared toward finances of the church. J. Cliff Christopher, a United Methodist Pastor and the CEO of Horizons Stewardship Company lead the workshop. He shared these reasons why people give or don't give.

The number one reason people give to an organization is if they believe in the mission of the organization. People give if they see a difference created in the things they value. People will not give to a youth organization if they report that on Sunday 20 kids show up for dodge ball and pizza. However, they will give if that one youth shares how meeting on Sunday and studying the Bible has changed their life. So people give to an organization if they believe in the mission of the organization and see that mission fulfilled.

The number two reason people give is the trust they have for the staff leadership. People must feel confident in the leadership to guide the organization in fulfilling the mission. People give to people because people help change lives not programs and buildings.

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The number three reason people give is the fiscal responsibility of the institution. People will not to give to an organization that wastes their money or always seems to be short of money. It sends a message they cannot achieve their mission. See people don't want to give to a sinking ship.

So if you ever wondered why give to the church I hope this maybe helped you make an informed decision. But if you don't give to the church then I'll assume; one, we are not doing a good job of changing lives, two that as the pastor (staff) I have not gain your confidence, or three is that you may believe the church is wasting money. I would love to discuss this further if you like. I'm always up for a cup of coffee in the morning or cold pop in the afternoon. Call me.

God's Blessings

Pastor Rick

SEPTEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- NO UMW Meeting this month
- Sunday Sept. 4: 8: 00a Trustee Meeting, NO Youth
- Thursday Sept 8: 6:30pm Nominating Committee Meeting
- Sunday Sept. 11: MOW Special Offering, 12: 00p SPRC Meeting, 6:00p Youth
- Monday-Friday Sept. 12-16: Meals On Wheels
- Sunday Sept. 18: 8:30a Trustees Meeting
- Wednesday Sept. 28: "SYATP" See You At The Pole
- **Sunday Evenings: 6:00pm Youth**
- **Wednesday Mornings: 6:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast at Ed's**
- **Tuesdays: Youth Lunch w/Katelyn**
- **Wednesday Evenings:6:30p Potluck 7:00p Bible Study [Max Lucado—Max On Life](#)**

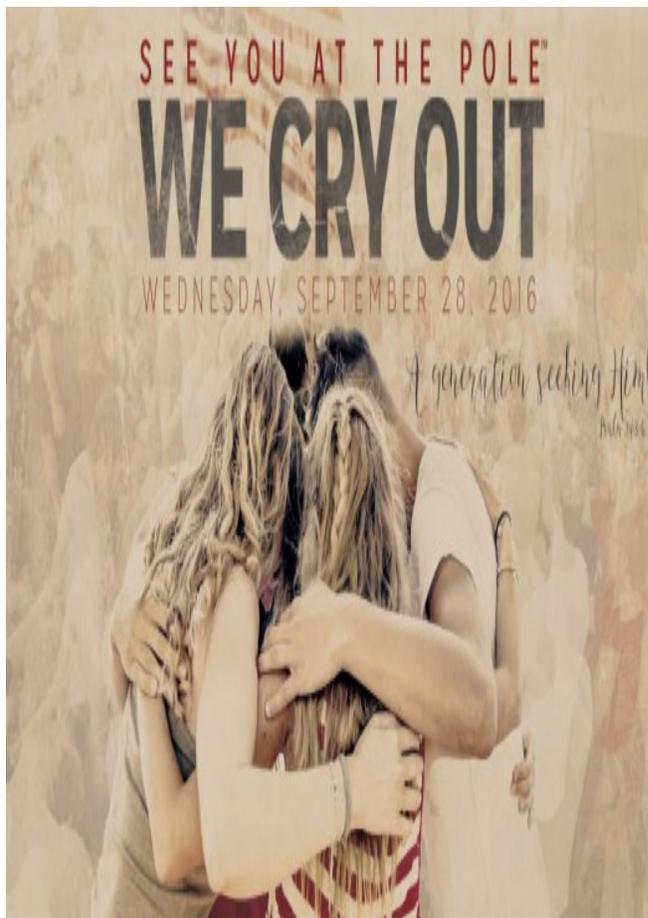


Sunday Brunch

October 30th 10:00am



October 30th 5pm-7pm



SEE YOU AT THE POLE 2016 WE CRY OUT

Wednesday, September 28

A generation seeking Him! —Psalm 24:3-6

See You at the Pole™ has grown to God-sized proportions, spreading around the world. God used the obedience of a small group of teens to start an international movement of prayer among young people. In Australia, one youth group that went to several different schools met for SYATP in May, the start of their school year. Once again the word spread and now, students gather all over that nation. Today, more than two million students from all 50 states and more than 20 other countries participate in SYATP. Thousands of inspiring testimonies of how God has used students at See You at the Pole™ to impact lives affirm God's power to answer those who cry out to Him in humble dependence. Bible clubs, weekly prayer gatherings, and other on-campus ministries have been launched on campuses where students have stepped up and led out to pray. Join millions around the world in asking God to bring revival. Whether you stand by yourself or among hundreds, know that you are part of a vast, united student-led movement of prayer. Be a part of what God wants to do on your campus, in your city, and our world through your prayers. Be a part of See You at the Pole™ !

Contact Us

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Join Us

9:00a The Connection
Casual, Contemporary, Worship

9:45a Caffeine Connection
Coffee, cookies, conversation

10:00a Sunday School Groups
Classes for all ages

11:00a Traditional Worship
Great worship for our Great God



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