

The Parish Light

The Parish of the Northern Lights Newsletter – June 2017



The Most Caring Child

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge.

The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child.

The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife.

Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there.

When his Mother asked what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said,

“Nothing, I just helped him cry”

..... Author Unknown

People are often unreasonable and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.

If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.

For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.

..... Mother Teresa

Letters to God from Children :

Dear God:

If you watch in church on Sunday, I will show you my new shoes. ~ Mickey D.

Dear God:

Instead of letting people die and having to make new ones, why don't you just keep the ones you got now? ~ Jane

Dear God – if – we – come – back – as – something – else - please – don't – let – it – be – Jennifer – Horton – I – hate – her. ~ Denise

Dear God:

Maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother. ~ Larry

Dear God:

If you give me a genie Lamp like Alladin, I will give you anything you want except my money or my chess set ~ Raphael

Dear God:

We read Thomas Edison made light but in Sunday School they said you did it. So I bet he stole your idea. ... Sincerely, Donna

- More letters to God next month!

Volunteering

In part...By Norman Coull, Messiah Lutheran Church, Winnipeg

I volunteer because I have the time, interest and resources. I enjoy meeting people I would not normally come in contact with. At the same time, I need to believe in the value and worth of the task.

Volunteering is a two-way street. I offer my services and in return I benefit by moving out of my comfort zone and expanding my horizons.

My top tips for recruiting volunteers are: try to add one or two extra members to offset the unforeseen change in plans; use all volunteers at least once and don't waste their time; be sure to thank all volunteers and actively solicit suggestions from the volunteers.

To lead you must learn to delegate. You must have confidence in your volunteers and their ability to react appropriately to a situation in their assigned area of responsibility should the need arise. Generally in a dynamic environment delay only breeds frustration and loss of confidence,.

One of my favorite sayings is peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding.- Albert Einstein

Psalm 118 Provides Us with a Certain Symmetry and a Few Smiles:

1. Psalm 118 is the middle chapter of the entire Bible.
2. Psalm 117, before Psalm 118, is the shortest chapter in the Bible.
3. Psalm 119, after Psalm 118, is the longest chapter in the Bible.
4. The Bible has 594 chapters before Psalm 118 and 594 chapters after Psalm 118.
5. If you add up all the chapters except Psalm 118, you get a total of 1188 chapters.
6. 1188 or Psalm 118 verse 8 is the middle verse of the entire Bible.
7. And what is the message found in verse 118?
'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.' - Psalm 118:8

Dead Church Story

A new pastor in Topeka, Kansas, USA, spent the first four days making personal visits to each of his prospective congregation inviting them to come to his inaugural services.

The following Sunday the church was all but empty. Accordingly, the pastor placed a notice in the local newspapers, stating that, because the church was dead, it was everyone's duty to give it a decent Christian burial. The funeral would be held the following Sunday afternoon.

Morbidly curious, a large crowd turned out for the 'funeral'.

In front of the pulpit they saw a closed coffin which was covered in flowers. After the priest had delivered the eulogy, he opened the coffin and invited his congregation to come forward and pay their final respects to their dead church.



Filled with curiosity as to what would represent the corpse of a 'dead church', all the people eagerly lined up to look in the coffin. Each 'mourner' peeped into the coffin then quickly turned away with a guilty, sheepish look.

In the coffin, tilted at the correct angle, was a large mirror.



God Said No

I asked God to take away my bad habits.
God said, no.
They are not for me to take away, but for you to give them up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.
God said, no.
His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience.
God said, no.
Patience is a by-product of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned.

I asked God to give me happiness.
God said, no.
I give you blessings; happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain.
God said, no.
Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow.
God said, no.
You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life.
God said, no.
I will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things.

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me.
God said...Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.

.....Author Unknown

The Diocese of Athabasca

presents

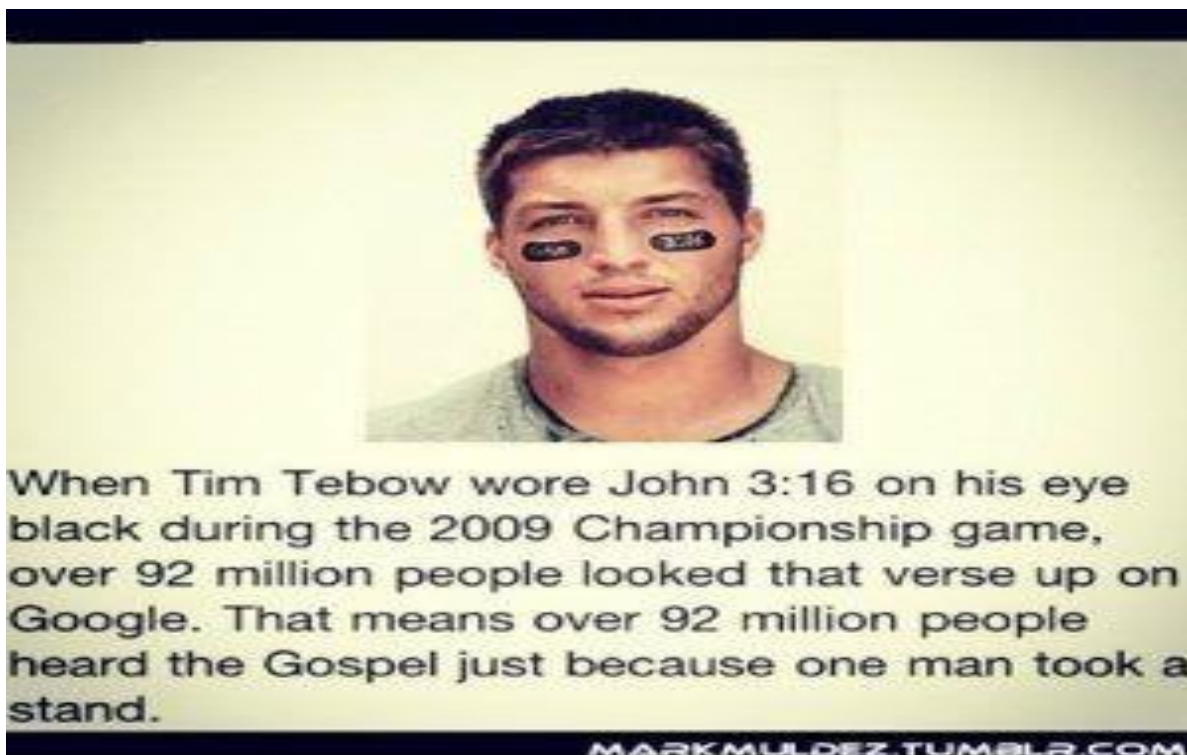
Dawn's Story

The Rev. Dawn McDonald is touring the diocese to speak about her experience living as a same-sex attracted person and sharing her testimony of God's transforming power at work in her life.

These presentations are aimed at fostering understanding and encouraging the Church to, as Dawn says, 'keep upholding the message that our God is an awesome God who can utterly transform our lives'. Participants will be equipped to minister with same-sex attracted persons.

Anyone wanting to learn more about the struggles faced by same-sex attracted persons and how to minister with them should attend.

Date: June 15, 2017... St Pâul's Boyle, 7:00 pm, Church Hall



YOUTH NEWS

Graduation Service -

Friday, June 23/17 at 7pm at St. Andrew's Zion.

We will be celebrating Angie Morrison and Gina Hrachy's accomplishments in graduating from high school.

This is a parish event and all are welcome to join the celebration.

An offering will be taken and gifted to the graduates. The service will be followed by refreshments.

*Every yesterday is
a memory of dreams,
Every tomorrow is a vision of hope*



Youth Daze 2017 -

Open to all youth 12-20 (grade 7+).

We are well underway with planning Youth Daze 2017, finalizing the details and posters and registration forms will be available soon.

This year we will be holding **Youth Daze at Teen Time Ranch near Dapp.**

If anyone wishes to sponsor a youth in our parish or diocese to attend please contact us.

Watch for more information soon!

ST. ANDREW'S ZION IS HOSTING



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

AUGUST 8 - 11, 2017

9AM – NOON

ALL AGED 12 AND UNDER WELCOME