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“As a Christian, whatever you do, put your whole heart into it, give it your best, give it your all, as if doing it all for the Lord.”

From the Pastor’s Article

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The DISCIPLE

“...go and make disciples in all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you; and be sure of this—that I am with you always, even to the end of the world.” Matt. 28:19-20

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As long as we are in the midst of baseball season’s seventh inning stretch and heading toward the unofficial end of summer with the Labor Day weekend ahead, it is only fitting I share this with you.

I recently watched a video clip of a major league baseball player, “jogging” toward a ball after he had made an error as the ball caromed off his glove into the outfield. This was not an amateur ball player mind you, but one of the highest paid, multi-year, multi-million-dollar contract professional athletes in the history of organized sports. I listened to the broadcasters who critiqued and criticized his lackadaisical, nonchalant attitude in response to an error that he had made, and how big a disappointment his lack of hustle was to his team, fans, and purists of the game. The lack of hustle, drive, and determination made me immediately think of a player from an earlier generation. Despite how you may feel about his gambling vices and being snubbed by the Hall of Fame, Pete Rose was the exact opposite of what I had witnessed from the recent video and he was a picture of what it meant to give it everything and to leave nothing on the field. He is major league baseball’s all-time hits leader with 4,256 hits, and undoubtedly will remain atop that list for years to come. However, there was something else I remember about Pete Rose as I watched him play over the years, and it was the reason he was given the moniker “Charlie Hustle” by his teammates. In a spring training game during his rookie year, Rose drew a walk, but instead of jogging up the line to first base, he sprinted, and it became what he was known for. He sprinted on and off the field at the change of sides (innings), he sprinted to first base after drawing a walk, and he turned singles into doubles. He was one of the first, if not the first, to slide or dive head-first into the bases and he always had dirt on the front of his uniform as evidence of his hustle.

Which brings me to this word of encouragement and directive from Paul’s letter to “God’s holy people in Colossae (Franklinton), the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ”, where in chapter 3 he tells them, “whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord”. As Paul was addressing a group of first century enslaved people who were admonished to serve their master well, so it should be us, the bondservants of Jesus Christ in the 21st century. As a Christian, whatever you do, put your whole heart into it, give it your best, give it your all, as if doing it all for the Lord. There are no prima donna superstars on the mission field of service to our Master. There are no excuses for not giving God our best. The world is watching the manner in which we minister, serve, and care for one another in the church and in the community. Like Charlie Hustle there ought to be something different about us – blood, sweat, tears, blisters, callouses, even a kind word or a smile – evidence that we are giving our lives in sacrificial service to our Master. Hustle up!

Happy Labor Day,
David

Discipleship Training Classes

We will have three classes beginning soon—hopefully no later than the first week in October. Signup sheets are on the table in the Welcome Center. We are attempting to find out the best day and time for most people who would like to attend these classes. For that reason, please be sure to list your phone number and preference for the day of the week and time best for you to attend the class. Leaders will do their best to choose a day and time to accommodate the participants. Come join others who are learning more about being and making disciples of Our Lord.

Devotional Text for Thought



God is always with us, and we are His representatives wherever we go. A good place to display Christlikeness is in school. So, as our children (and teachers) begin a new school year, these passages of scripture (from outuponthewaters.com) offer encouragement on staying focused on what is right and true:

- 1) **1) Thank God First**
Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV):
⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.
- 2) **2) Do Not Worry or Be Anxious**
Philippians 4:6 (NIV):
⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
- 3) **3) Work for the Glory of God**
Colossians 3:23 (NIV):
³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.
- 4) **4) Show Godly Characteristics**
Colossians 3:12 (NIV):
¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.
- 5) **5) Listen to the Word of God**
Psalm 119:105 (NIV):
¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

September Birthdays

- | | |
|----|-------------------|
| 3 | Sam Hicks, Jr. |
| | Aurora Porter |
| 4 | DeAnne Carson |
| | Susanne Harris |
| 5 | Michael Porter |
| 6 | Ryland Grissom |
| | Kristy Jordan |
| | Hunter Morgan |
| 7 | Stephanie Garrett |
| | Don Mobley |
| 10 | David Hunt |
| 13 | Brittney Campbell |
| | Ken Wilson |
| 15 | Sandi Harris |
| 16 | Adrian Wright |
| 17 | Ryan Campbell |
| | Ann Goswick |
| | Dorsey Jackson |
| 19 | Cynthia Caudle |
| 21 | Geneva Hunt |
| 22 | David Averette |
| | Karen Coats |
| | George Lusk |
| 24 | Kris Hicks |
| 25 | Sherrill Johnson |
| 26 | Evelyn Goswick |
| | Brandon Hall |
| 29 | Alan Outhouse |
| 30 | Justin Hunt |
| | Janine Morgan |

Our Giving Continues.....

We praise God for your continued faithfulness in giving. Contributions are as follows:

- July 31: \$ 4,434.00
- August 7: \$ 5,012.00
- August 14: \$ 3,466.00
- August 21: \$ 3,914.00

Vacation Bible School

Don't forget about our VBS on September 10. Registration is from 8:30-9:00, and we have classes for all ages, from preschool to adult. A nursery will also be provided. Please call Dottie Averette at 919-495-0143 for more details.

Missions Moments

Since our last newsletter the church has stepped up and stepped out to help so many others in Jesus' name. On consecutive weeks, we first collected \$3,700 to send to Virgie Baptist Church in Virgie, Kentucky to help Thomas Reid and the congregation there to provide disaster relief for the flood victims. Then the following week we collected \$765 to send to Andrew Halliburton in Nairobi, Kenya to help a young man named Leopold receive medical care and to provide for his daily needs. However, God was not finished yet. We partnered with the Christian Appalachian Project to collect cleaning and emergency supplies, as well as monetary donations again for the people of Eastern Kentucky. From that two hours on a Saturday morning we collected a van full of cleaning supplies and \$770 to help others in Jesus' name. In the midst of those ministry opportunities we also collected back to school supplies for the schools and children in our community. Your generosity in addressing and meeting the needs of others is a testimony to the mission of the church and your faithful, obedient stewardship of all that God has entrusted to us.

What's up next? Stay tuned for word regarding our on-going, annual support of Operation Christmas Child through the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Ministry. We will serve again as a drop off location in addition to the number of boxes we will collect, assemble and provide as a church. I would also like for you to begin planning for ways to help bless children and families through the Christmas Family Ministry. I know that God has more WOW! moments in store for us as we stay faithful to what He calls us to do.

Luke 12:48 states, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." While God demands and asks, remain obedient in your giving and watch God do something amazing!

A Word from Our Music Director Patrick Woods

Job understood clearly that God makes Himself known through His creation. Job knew that God "shakes the earth from its place and makes its pillars tremble." (Job 9:6) The wind blows and the thunder rolls and we are reminded that He is God. The sun sets and the stars shine and we are reminded that He is Creator.

God can be the great mover and shaker in our own lives. People will be amazed at the great things He can do when we allow Him to work His will through us. These people will want to know Him, believe Him and join us in singing "How great Thou art!"

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

-Stuart K. Hine

