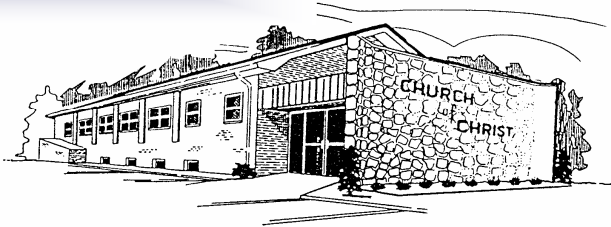


Teaching them to observe
all things...Matt. 28:20



The St. Joseph Observer

May 23, 2010

The St. Joseph Church of Christ

Charlie McGee, Minister
Russell Hicks, Berrien Gen

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Schedule of Services

Sunday School
9:45

Sunday Worship
10:45

Sunday PM
5:00

Tuesday Ladies' Class
9:00 AM

Wednesday Bible Study
6:00

Elders

Leo Conkin 925-7688
Clyde Daniel 428-2322
Charlie McGee 861-5811
Steve Parsons 465-7901

Deacons

Dave Hipskind 468-4735
Eric Ramso 465-5965

Ladies' Prayer Chain

Kim Batson 428-7281
Barb Conkin 925-7688
Gayle Daniel 428-2322
Jan Mundy 473-1505

You Can Do Something

I have shared this story with several people. If you've heard it already, I apologize.

I was sitting in the Miami airport on my way back from Haiti. Of course, not much of anything went well. First of all, the flight from Haiti was late leaving. Then, as we approached Miami, we were put in a holding pattern because of a storm which, of course, made us evening later.

If the flights were on time, I only had 1½ hours to deplane, get my luggage, go through customs, get to a different terminal building, check in, and board. When we finally landed in Miami, there was not enough time to make the transfer. I went as fast as I could and when I got to the gate, the flight to Chicago had also been delayed because of the weather. I was thankful that I still had a chance to make the flight home.

The flight to Chicago kept being delayed until there was no possible way for me to get there in time to make the last limo bus to Michigan City. As I sat in the Miami airport, waiting on a plane that seemed would never leave, I talked to several people as they came and went. At one point, a couple sat down across from me. I overheard a comment about having to wait. I said, "It could be worse. We could be waiting in Haiti."

The man asked if that is where I'd been. He and his wife were both very interested. I told them all about the trip, what I'd seen, and what I'd done. They asked if I lived in Chicago and when I told them St. Joseph, they asked how I was going to get home. I explained that my truck was parked in Michigan City.

They didn't really provide much information about themselves.

Finally, it was time to board the plan. I knew that there was no possible way to catch the last bus. I called Susan and told her that I would be spending the night in Chicago. As I came off the ramp into the terminal, the man I had been talking to was waiting for me. I was very surprised since I had no idea he was even on the same flight.

He said, "My wife and I discussed it and I want to drive you to Michigan City."

"That won't be necessary. I've already talked to my wife and she knows I am spending the night here."

He said, "My wife and I discussed it and I really want to take you. You see, I **CAN'T** go to Haiti. But I **CAN** drive you to Michigan City."

I asked him how they came to be in Chicago. He said they were supposed to take a later flight but decided at the last minute to try to catch this flight. When they checked in at the desk to request to be put on standby, the attendant said there was virtually no chance they'd make the plane because there were so many people in front of them. He asked to be put on the list anyway. As it turned out, they were the last two people to board the plane. What are the odds of all these coincidences happening? What are the odds that I would meet this couple before I boarded, tell them my story as a way to make conversation, they are the last two passengers, and then go completely out of their way to befriend a stranger.

It's easy to dwell on what we can't do. It's easy to think a task is too big or too complex. And it's easy to overlook what we **CAN** do. Not everyone has been blessed with five or ten talents. And certainly, not everyone has been blessed with the same talents. But the one thing all servants of Christ have in common is the directive to **USE** our talents. That was the great sin of the one talent man. The problem was not that he had only one talent. The problem was that he did not use it.

Everyone can do something. Some can go to Haiti for a week and help there. Some can contribute money or goods. And some can drive a complete stranger to Michigan City in the middle of the night. Don't underestimate what you can do.

Please remember in prayer...

- Members with Health Issues Leo Conkin, Warren James, Virginia Kowalski, Vanessa Matthews, Jim Smith, Lee Wallis, Juanita Weatherford
- The Military Nick Hastings, Ian Matthews
- Our Church The Buildings & Grounds Committee, our Elders & Deacons, our members

Announcements

*5th Sunday Potluck & Fellowship
May 30*

VBS

July 25-29 6-8 PM

Invite your friends & family now!

Graduation Celebrations

Leigh Ann Ives
Friday, June 4 - 6-9 pm
2300 Forest Hills Lane, St. Joe

Shannon Ramso
Sunday, June 13 - 1-4 pm (come for lunch)
9777 Niagara Row, Bridgman

*We will be collecting change for the Schultz-Lewis Children's Home until September 12.
Each family has a collection can available. Please be sure to get one.*

Congregational Calendar

May – June

23 Full Nesters 12:30  Mason Parsons	24	25 <i>Ladies' Class</i>	26	27	28  Irwin	29
30	31	1 <i>Ladies' Class</i>	2	3  Lowell Hicks  Kittleson	4	5