

I love fall.

And there are so many reasons: changing colors, cooler temperatures, football, campfires, fresh apples and apple cider, and so much more. But of all those wonderful things, I think the cooler evenings around the campfire is certainly high on the list. And though I don't do that often enough, it can be one of the most peaceful and relaxing places to be.

And one of the reasons I enjoy those campfires, especially in the country away from all the lights of town, is the uniqueness of that light. Fire has a way of dancing and bouncing, revealing shadows in a unique and sometimes spooky way. And fires are always captivating, but especially in contrast to the darkness around it. It provides a comfort and enjoyment that makes them just so enjoyable to be around.

And we know in the Bible just how significant the imagery of light is, especially in the words of Jesus. And Henri Nouwen picks up on the language when he writes: "People who have come to know the joy of God do not deny the darkness, but they choose not to live in it. They claim that the light that shines in the darkness can be trusted more than the darkness itself and that a little bit of light can dispel a lot of darkness. They point each other to flashes of light here and there, and remind each other that they reveal the hidden but real presence of God. They discover that there are people who heal each other's wounds, forgive each other's offenses, share their possessions, foster the spirit of community, celebrate the gifts they have received, and live in constant anticipation of the full manifestation of God's glory."

And I find Nouwen's words here a powerful

adaptation of that light imagery. It is so true that we do not deny the darkness in our world. In fact, to deny the darkness of our world means we fail to see the needs and hardships of those around us. And we fall short of our calling and the love of God when we deny the darkness in our world and the darkness in our own hearts. But it's also essential that we don't live in that darkness and we continue to strive to remove the darkness in our own hearts, too. We know that the light that God provides is solid and consistent, while the darkness is cold and shadowy.

But, just like needing to stay near the campfire to stay warm, we need to stay near others who love Jesus to shine the light into the darkness. Because the darkness in our world is so prevalent, we need others to remind us of the real presence of God. And, unfortunately, that's what we seem to have lost in our culture: connection and encouragement. And, again, in our world that is essential to continue to be faithful and to navigate this world well, especially as Christians. And Nouwen here gives us a list of benefits of this community each of which is so important to having a joyful life in this world. Jesus said, "Walk in the light while you can, so the darkness will not overtake you. Those who walk in the darkness cannot see where they are going." (John 12.35, NLT) And walking in the light is easier when we have a group of lights shining with us on the journey.

Serving Him and you,
Matthew

Family Night

Family Night is back to its normal schedule (Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm) and is going well so far. We can always use a few extra hands to help out but are especially in need of baked goods and financial donations to continue the ministry as we have done.

Prayer List

- Kirsta Anderson-colon cancer spread to liver
- Rhonda Barfield - seizures
- Dorothy Cleavinger – serious health issues
- Bill Danner – continued healing, dialysis
- Jody Dean – treatments
- Karen Fredrick – in hospital, not well
- Mike Grater – cancer
- Eric Hamm – leukemia
- Jim Kinzer – cancer, heart attack
- Clyde Prater-cancer, experimental treatments
- Lori Rodriguez – stage 4 cirrhosis of liver
- Debbie Opp – chemo treatment
- Sonya Shawgo – cataract surgery
- Tim Stower – pace-maker procedure
- Unspoken Prayer Concern
- Praise:**
- Becky Watson – in remission

September Financials

	Weekly Actual	Yearly Actual	Yearly Budget
Sept 3 rd	\$571.03	\$37,791.56	\$39,357.72
Sept 10 th	\$788.00	\$38,579.56	\$40,450.99
Sept 17 th	\$225.00	\$38,804.56	\$41,544.26
Sept 24 th	\$1,723.00	\$40,527.56	\$42,637.53

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You Are Welcome At
Our Services!

Sunday

Morning Worship.....9 a.m.

Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Family Night.....6:00 p.m.

Events:

Sun. Oct. 1st-4th – Revival @6pm
nightly

Weds. Oct. 4th – Family Night
@6pm

Sun. Oct. 8th- Board Meeting
@6pm

Tues. Oct. 10th – Man Up
@6:30pm

Weds. Oct. 11th – Family Night
@6pm

Mon. Oct. 16th - Camp Fellowship,
Vermont @6pm

Weds. Oct. 18th – Family Night
@6pm

Thurs. Oct. 19th – Ladies’
Fellowship @6pm (Hulett home)

Weds. Oct. 25th – Family Night
@6pm

Thurs. Oct. 26th – LCSC Annual
Meeting @6pm

Sun. Oct. 29th – Worship & Prayer
@6pm



*Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your
deeds, Lord. Repeat them in our day, in our time make
them known; in wrath remember mercy.*

Habakkuk 3:2

