



The Beacon

Harrisburg Christian Church

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AUGUST 2009

Greetings HCC,

At press time, I had just returned from the Youth Group Float Trip and I was able to see a neat picture of the 'I'm Third' life.

'I'm Third' is a concept I learned about when working at a summer camp during my college years. The phrase is taken from the statement Jesus made when he said that the greatest commandment was to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind" and that the second is like it: "love your neighbor as yourself". God first, others second, and I'm Third.

As we loaded up the bus for a three day float trip, I shared this concept with the teens that were going. I said that the trip that we had planned was one that was not going to feel like a vacation, there was a lot of work involved in setting up tents, moving our stuff, cooking our meals, looking out for one another, etc. As I reflect back on the trip, I saw a picture of "I'm Third" in action in the lives of the teens:

They helped one another load and unload stuff, and set up tents. They watched out for each other on the river and around the campsite. When a canoe got stuck or when a flip flop went floating down the river they 'rescued' each other. They cooked and prepared meals for each other and made sure everyone had enough to eat. They were patient with one another and were friendly to people that they were not friends with before the trip. It was a great picture for me because I often get so wrapped up in my own agenda that I tend to overlook the simple needs of those around me.

When challenged with a three day task of "I'm Third" living, I saw the teens rise to the challenge of putting other people's needs before their own. When we returned home, I challenged the teens to practice "I'm Third" living at home for the rest of the summer and I would like to pass that challenge on to you as well. How about we end this summer with a bang? Let's live 'I'm Third'. Put God first in our time, talents and treasure. Look to meet other's needs before our own. The 'I'm Third' life, it is the way to really live!

Al and Doris Quevreaux hosted our youth group at their beautiful river front property on the Meramec River. They spent three days asking how they could serve us. They even cut down some trees so we could get the bus turned around. They too were a picture of what 'I'm Third' living is all about and I'm thankful for their hospitality.

In the process of all our adventures, two students indicated a desire to trust Christ as Savior and we were able to talk about the glory of God as we looked at miles of scenery from the top of an Ozark mountain. What a mighty God we serve (check out Psalm 19)!

God Loves You,
John Gillman

Other tidbits:

1. Thank you to all who make financial contributions to HCC. Having a dependable church bus is a huge help for events like the youth group float trip. Your financial support is appreciated.
2. August 23rd after the worship service, Class 201 will be held. It is for anyone who has completed Class 101 and would like to learn about the habits that lead to spiritual maturity. Sign up with John Gillman if you are interested.
3. Parents and Grandparents, would you take the time this month to teach the 'I'm Third' concept to your children and grandchildren? Look for ways you see them demonstrating this attitude and point it out to them.

HCC is a great place to worship our Lord! We invite you to join us this Sunday!

Bible Study for all ages at 9:00am. Worship Service at 10:00am
(Childcare is provided for children less than 5 years during Worship Services)

Baby Announcements

Josiah Micah Carroll

**July 9, 2009
9 lbs. 10 oz. – 22 in.**

**Proud Parents:
James and Amanda**

William Stanley Cole

**July 13, 2009
7 lbs. 5 oz. – 20.5 in.**

**Proud Parents & Brother:
Fred, Stacey and Hunter**

Easton Shane Freeman

**July 14, 2009
8 lbs. 7 oz. – 21 in.**

**Proud Parents & Sister:
Clint, Elizabeth and Avery**

Darian Kaile Gilpin

**July 2, 2009
7 lbs. 10 oz. – 20 in.**

**Proud Parents:
Gabe and Jodi**



What will they remember?

Recently, I was asked to pray for a single Mom named Karen and her 13 year old son Billy. Karen has cancer and has only four months to live. The shock of such news is overwhelming and the decisions that have to be made are a great burden. Please join me in placing Karen and Billy under the Mighty Hand of God, surrounded by our prayers. That God will direct their decisions, watch over them, ease the discomfort Karen is going through and the pain of loss Billy will be experiencing.

Psalm 34: 18-19 *The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

(FN: We often wish we could escape troubles, the pain of grief, loss, sorrow and failure; or even the small daily frustrations that constantly wear us down. God promises to be “near to the brokenhearted” to be our source of power, courage and wisdom, helping us through those problems. When trouble strikes don’t get frustrated with God. Instead admit that you need God’s help and thank him for being by your side.)

This got me to thinking about my own life here on earth. What will my children and grandchildren remember about me?

- Will they have fond memories of things we did together or say we never did anything together?
- Was I supportive or critical?
- Did I set a good or bad example for them to follow?
- Did things I say scar them or build them up?
- Did I speak with Joy or snapping?
- Was I loving or cold?
- Was I there to support them or missed their performance?
- Was I forgiving or held a grudge?
- Did I wash away my responsibility as a parent with things that made me feel good?



I’m taking this as a cue that some changes may be in order and I challenge you to do the same. These times are so busy that we sometimes miss the important things. I am looking forward to the Joy of spending time with my family this Summer, and hope you will too. Chuck Swindoll said **“Joy allows us and encourages us to live above our circumstances”**. So whatever the circumstances you are facing right now, look for Joy and be encouraged!

Hugs and Blessings - Debby Thomas

August Dates to Remember!!

Board Meeting – Second Wednesday (August 12th) @ 6pm

Health Clinic – Second Thursday (August 13th) 12-1pm

Truth Project – Every Wednesday 6:30-8:30pm

Women's Bible Study – Mondays @ 6:30pm

Bulletin Information Due Wednesdays
mcjoyellen@yahoo.com 875-5589

Beacon Articles due the 15th
beacon@harrisburgchristian.org



August Service Assignments:

Church Opening

- 02 Johnny and Vickie Spry
- 09 Mary Gilbert
- 16 Tootie Hardman
- 23 Al and Doris Querveaux
- 30 Charlie and Paulette Thurston

Greeters

- 02 Nannie Lewis and Rona Flippin
- 09 Jerry Priddy Family
- 16 Nancy and Samantha Dixon
- 23 Charles Roller Family
- 30 Amy Price and Debbie Burks

Communion

- 02 Johnny Spry, Randy Foley, Jimmy Ott, Roy Francis, Joy McBee
- 09 Sam Coy, Karen Kinkead, Nancy Dixon, Angie McBride, Paulette Thurston
- 16 Ray Cochran, Bobby Carey, Anita Pingel, Brenda Carey, Debby Thomas
- 23 Sam Coy, Herb Owens, Cara Douglas, Shelly Perrigo, Collin McBride
- 30 Johnny Spry, Bobby Carey, Collin McBride, Elaina Priddy, Shelly Perrigo

Church Closing

- 02 Guy and Tracy Stroud
- 09 Joy McBee
- 16 Cindy Roller
- 23 Kim Lanes and Betty Ham
- 30 Keith and Jennifer Overton

Candle Lighters

- 02 Marla Oglesby Family
- 09 Collin McBride Family
- 16 Cara Douglas Family
- 23 Sean Cochran Family
- 30 John Gillman Family

Nursery

- 02 Linda Buetenmiller, Kathleen Gillman, and Anita Pingel
- 09 Guy & Tracy Stroud
- 16 Judy Cochran, Debby Burks, and Rinda Blakemore
- 23 Vonna Foley, Randi Hancock, and Heidi Salter
- 30 Cec Blakemore, Cara Douglas, and Mary Gilbert



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Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV) "Come to me all you are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

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