

2016 July-August SILO SOUNDINGS NEWSLETTER

ADA'S ACRES – 2016

Our community garden, fondly known as “Ada’s Acres,” has already produced about 150 pounds of produce for the two food pantries here in town. This harvest of goodies has been comprised of radishes, lettuce, spinach, kale, broccoli and chard.

All together everything that has been planted this year is: beets, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, corn, cucumber, eggplant, green beans, kale, lettuce, okra, onions, peppers (bell, banana, jalapeno, habanera), potatoes, radishes, spinach, squash (acorn and butternut), sweet potatoes, tomatoes, turnips, and zucchini. WOW! That’s a lot of veggies!

Besides giving produce to the pantries, we also allow families and individuals to have plots in the space that we have tilled. (Which is done by a member of the community for free as his way, of helping families in need.) This year we have four families that have garden plots. Three are returning families and one is new.

As far as work goes...besides harvesting, weeding and watering have consumed a substantial amount of time. Much more so than in past years. There were a couple of plots last year that were less than properly cared for and a number of weeds went to seed resulting in an overabundance of them that have had to be dealt with this year. With Mike Johnson’s recent retirement he has vowed, “No weeds make seed!” for this year. The unusually early and long stretch of dry weather has caused the need to water several times when in a normal year the need for watering would not have happened yet. This has resulted in slow growth rates of just about everything in the garden (except the \$%#^> weeds!)

Note: Don’t forget your help is needed on Sundays and Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. until dark in the garden! Bring a friend along...the more, the merrier or rather less weeds. ☺



DINNER AND A MOVIE

On Wednesday, July 13th we’ll be having a “Dinner and a Movie” night at the church starting at 5:30. What better way to spend what will probably be a hot summer’s night than by enjoying some good company (that you didn’t have to clean for) while you take delight in a good meal (that you didn’t have to cook) and then watch a movie (in air conditioned comfort)!! ☺

So sign up to join us at the church by Sunday, July 10th for a meal of various pastas and salad from Basta’s here in Morton. And to finish the meal properly there will be assorted cheesecakes from Morton’s Desserts Unlimited. The cost for the meal will be \$20/person payable that night.

The movie hasn’t been selected yet, so if you have a suggestion or two, just pass it on to one of the session members for consideration. (Maybe there will even be popcorn during the movie!)



ICE CREAM SOCIAL IN AUGUST

Another good thing to do on a hot summer’s night is to go to an Ice Cream Social! So on Sunday, August 14th there will be lots and lots of ice cold ice cream (and toppings) for you to enjoy. Yummmm! This; will take place starting at 7:00 so that you would have time to help out in the garden beforehand. ☺

Know someone else that would enjoy attending an ice cream social? Well bring them along...the more the merrier! Just please remember to sign up on the bulletin board before the event so that we know how much ice cream to get.

CASUAL SUNDAYS CONTINUE

As we have done in the past, our Casual Sunday Services will again be held in July and August. As mentioned in a previous Silo Sounding Newsletter, these Sundays will be the last ones in each month. (July 31 and August 28) The service will be held in the fellowship room or maybe even outside. (Pastor's choice) Following the service will be a potluck with a main entrée provided. (June's was fried chicken and July and August's may be a cookout by grilling chef Mike Johnson and pulled pork sandwiches in the other month.) All you'll need to do is bring a dish to share.



POLO SHIRTS FOR SALE

You will have an opportunity to purchase a very nice polo shirt with the church's new logo embroidered on it. These shirts are \$20 and come in medium blue or if you don't like that color you could get....medium blue. ☺ The logo as shown above will be embroidered on the polo shirt just above the left breast. This is being done by The Heart of Morton group and they do a beautiful job. You can see for yourself as an example will be on display at church on Sundays.

Orders will be taken through July 17th. If you have any questions, then please contact Mary Jane Johnson.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

July 10—Helen Claver
July 15—Kris Reeser
July 16—Cheryl Mangels

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

August 1—Penny Frame
August 4—John Harbaugh
August 7—Mike Claver
August 14—Bob Nelson
August 18—Lori Lewis
August 28—Claudia Ulavege

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

August 5—Lori & John Lewis
August 6—Edna & Steve Johnson
August 29—Cheryl & Ruben Mangels



KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Lois & Gary Mort—for better health for both of them.
Linda Harbaugh—to stay healthy.
John Harbaugh—is still waiting on having shoulder surgery.
Pete Vallosio—for good health and recovery from a stroke. Both he and Dorothy are still residing at Restmor.
Dorothy Vallosio—more energy and strength plus good health.
Dorothy Williams—prayers for good mobility and health.
Barb Necessary—for pain free health.
Kathy Voekler—for health problems that have occurred after a recent surgery.
Sue Troxell—on the death of her husband, J.C.,

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE – J.C. TROXELL

We were all saddened to hear that Sue Troxell's husband lost his battle with cancer after battling it and its complications for so many years. A celebration though of his life will be held at our church on Wednesday, June 29th from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. Please join Sue and her family and friends as they share their stories and remembrances of J.C.

How to Survive the Stress of Summer

“The LORD gives his people strength. The LORD blesses them with peace.” Psalm 29:11 (NLT)

The threat of summer craziness was becoming a reality. I settled in a chair at my kitchen table, surrounded by the clutter of information sheets regarding work obligations, sports practices, music lessons, scout outings, and obligations of two churches; Morton and Canton. Pulling out my family calendar, I mapped out the summer months.

After writing down all our commitments, I stared at the endless scribbles etched across practically every date. We had only one free week during the entire summer. With a heavy sigh and swirling thoughts, I felt a twinge of stress and anxiety slowly rising up in my chest.

I couldn't help but wonder, isn't summer supposed to be footloose and fancy-free? What happened to sleeping in and time to rest and unwind? Are relaxing summer days merely a thing of the past?

Now, it seems like the summer can instead be filled with days when the grandkids are bored and whiny, camps get cancelled, work interferes with vacation plans, the AC goes out, and traffic is horrendous. Days when we lose our patience, harbor a bad attitude, and have had quite enough of family time. Days when we feel powerless against the exhaustion of our busy schedule and stress rules the roost.

It may seem that easy summers are long gone. However, we can make it through the hectic days and stay at peace despite the chaos. In Psalm 29:11 God promises He will help with whatever we face: *“The LORD gives his people strength. The LORD blesses them with peace.”*

There are several keys to God's peace overriding the mayhem. When we remember to focus on God's sweet goodness, instead of all the scribbles on our calendar, we can be proactive in managing summertime. We can receive God's calm, even in a busy and sometimes stressful time of the year. Here are some specific ways to do so:

*Focusing on all the good things God has done for us, instead of the challenges of summer.
Remaining calm and praying for God's peace when the demands of family and life seem overwhelming.*

Asking God to give us rest and strength when we begin to feel stretched thin and worn out.
We can also take some additional steps to keep summer stress at bay. Such as:

Take daily mini-vacations. Try to set aside at least five minutes per hour to stretch and take a break.

When you take days off from your work or daily routine, unplug completely—meaning no phone or emails.

Keep a checklist or a detailed calendar of all scheduled activities.

Do something for yourself once a week: take a bubble bath, read a good book, spend time outdoors or take a nap.

Busyness and stress can heat up quicker than the summer sun. But it is possible to stay cool on the inside. Whether we are low in spirit or low in energy, depending on God and seeking a daily infusion of His strength and peace can ensure a less stressful summer.

When feeling stresses use this prayer: *Dear Jesus, sometimes I allow the chaos of summer to distract me from spending time with You. I neglect to claim Your peace and allow myself to get bogged down with the stressors of the season. I get frustrated with my children or grandchildren, rather than treasuring this time with them. Help me to focus on You when I begin to feel overcommitted and to seek Your peace with each rising sun. In Your Name, Amen.*

Hope you have a blessed and stress-free summer!!

*Shalom,
Pastor Penny*



Red Skelton - What the Pledge Means to ME

Script:

In 1969, Red Skelton gave his personal view of the Pledge of Allegiance. The statement he made at the end, I think, tells it all.

Red Skelton, one of America's best loved Comedians and star of Motion Pictures, Radio and Television, was also a true Patriot. A man who loved his Country, its Flag and the Freedom America stood for. On January 14, 1969, Red touched the hearts of millions of Americans with his "Pledge of Allegiance," in which he explained the meaning of each and every word. Red's "Pledge" was twice read into the Congressional Record of the United States and received numerous awards.

Red Skelton – What the Pledge means to ME

This was first broadcast on:

From The Red Skelton Hour, CBS TV, January 14, 1969.

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I remember this one teacher. To me, he was the greatest teacher, a real sage of my time.

He had such wisdom. We were all reciting the Pledge of Allegiance one day, and he walked over.

Mr. Lasswell was his name.

He said, "I've been listening to you boys and girls recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester, and it seems as though it is becoming monotonous to you."

If I may, may I recite it and try to explain to you the meaning of each word?"

I: me, an individual, a committee of one.

PLEDGE: dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

ALLEGIANCE: my love and my devotion.

TO THE FLAG: our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom.

Wherever she waves, there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody's job.

OF THE

UNITED: that means that we have all come together.

STATES: individual communities that have united into 48 great states.

Forty-eight individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose, all divided with imaginary boundaries yet united to a common purpose, and that's love for country.

OF AMERICA

AND TO THE REPUBLIC: a state in which sovereign power is vested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

FOR WHICH IT STANDS

ONE NATION: meaning, so blessed by God.

INDIVISIBLE: incapable of being divided.

WITH LIBERTY: which is freedom, the right of power to live one's own life without threats, fear, or some sort of retaliation.

AND JUSTICE: the principle or quality of dealing fairly with others.

FOR ALL: which means, boys and girls, it's as much your country as it is mine.

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance: UNDER GOD

Wouldn't it be a pity if someone said, "That is a prayer," and that would be eliminated from schools, too?