



Advance Memorial United Methodist Church

THE MESSENGER

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Special Point of Interests

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From The Pastor

I once had a job bagging groceries at a Food Fair in Somerset, Kentucky. One day a buddy of mine and I were bagging groceries and taking them out to people's cars for them (they still did that back in the "old days"). My friend came in and began bagging up the groceries of the next patron and then called over to me, "Hey, have you seen that mustang out in the parking lot?" I hadn't, so he began to describe the car to me and making fun of the paint job and the terrible job someone did of putting racing lines on it. He basically said he couldn't believe anyone would drive around in a car with such an ugly and ridiculous paint job.

We both finished up bagging for our

customers at the same time and began taking the carts to the vehicles the customers were leading us to. To my friends horror –and my amusement –he found himself being led closer and closer to the car he had been mocking. I'll never forget the worried and painful look on his face as he looked back in my direction. Sure enough, the whole time he was demeaning the paint job on this car, he had been bagging the groceries for the one who owned it. It was highly embarrassing for him.

Scripture tells us that we are all created by God and made in His image. It also tells us that we are all deeply loved by God. So, I frequently try to draw on this experience from my past when I deal

with people –especially with those who I find frustrating and disagreeable. About the time I start to think about another person in a way that is griping or ridiculing, I am reminded that the owner is standing with me and hearing every thought. I think this is a good time for us to let this lesson sink in. No matter how battered, worn, or ridiculous the paint job has become; the Lord still values what is previous to Him. And He is aware of our thoughts and words even when we don't share them out loud. If he can still see value in others and can love them unconditionally, then we have little excuse to fail to value them as well.

Pastor Sean Shrall

To All His Children Effective Immediately:

Please be aware that there are changes you need to make in your life. These changes need to be completed in order that I may fulfill my promises to you to grant you peace, joy and happiness in this life. I apologize for any inconvenience, but after all that I am doing, this seems very little to ask of you. I know, I already gave you 10 Commandments. Keep them, but follow these guidelines as well.

1. QUIT WORRYING: Life has dealt you a blow and all you do is sit and worry. Have you forgotten that I am here to take all your burdens and carry them for you? Or do you just enjoy fretting over every little thing that comes your way?

2. PUT IT ON THE LIST: Something needs done or taken care of. Put it on the list. No, not YOUR list. Put it on MY to-do-list. Let ME be the one to take care of the problem. I can't help you until you turn it over to me. And, although my to-do-list is long, I am, after all, God. I can take care of anything you put into my hands. In fact, if the truth were ever really known, I take care of a lot of things for you that you never even realize.

3. TRUST ME: Once you've given your burdens to me, quit trying to take them back. Trust in me. Have the faith that I will take care of all your needs, your problems and your trials. Problems with the kids? Put them on my list. Problem with finances? Put it on my list. Problems with your emotional roller coaster? For my sake, put it on my list. I want to help you. All you have to do is ask.

4. LEAVE IT ALONE: Don't wake up one morning and say, "Well, I'm feeling much stronger now, I think I can handle it from here." Why do you think you are feeling stronger now?

It's simple. You gave me your burdens, and I'm taking care of them. I also renew your strength and cover you in my peace. Don't you know that if I give you these problems back, you will be right back where you started? Leave them with me and forget about them. Just let me do my job.

5. TALK TO ME: I want you to forget a lot of things. Forget what was making you crazy. Forget the worry and the fretting because you know I'm in control. But there's one thing I want you to never forget. Please don't forget to talk to me - OFTEN! I love you. I want to hear your voice. I want you to include me in the things going on in your life. I want to hear you talk about your friends and family. Prayer is simply you having a conversation with me. I want to be your dearest friend.

6. HAVE FAITH: I see a lot of things from up here that you can't see from where you are. Have faith in me that I know what I'm doing. Trust me, you wouldn't want the view from my eyes. I will continue to care for you, watch over you, and meet your needs. You only have to trust me. Although I have a much bigger task than you, it seems as if you have so much trouble just doing your simple part. How hard can trust be?

7. SHARE: You were taught to share when you were only two years old. When did you forget? That rule still applies. Share with those who are less fortunate than you. Share your joy with those who need encouragement. Share your laughter with those who haven't heard any in such a long

time. Share your tears with those who are mourning. Share your faith with those who have none.

8. BE PATIENT

I managed to fix it so in just one lifetime you could have so many diverse experiences. You grow from a child to an adult, have children, change jobs many times, learn many trades, travel to so many places, meet thousands of people, and experience so much. How can you be so impatient then when it takes me a little longer than you expect to handle something on my to-do-list? Trust in my timing, for my timing is perfect. Just because I created the entire universe in only six days, everyone thinks I should always rush, rush, rush.

9. BE KIND: Be kind to others, for I love them just as much as I love you. They may not dress like you, or talk like you, or live the same way you do, but I still love you all. Please try to get along, for my sake. I created each of you different in some way. It would be too boring if you were all identical. Please know I love each of your differences.

10. LOVE YOURSELF: As much as I love you, how can you not love yourself? You were created by me to be loved, and to love in return. I am a God of Love. Love me. Love your neighbors. But also love yourself. It makes my heart ache when I see you so angry with yourself when things go wrong. You are very precious to me. Don't ever forget that!

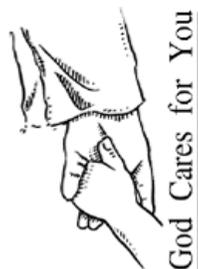
With all my heart, I love you,
GOD

Children's Corner

You Are Precious in His Sight

So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows. Matthew 10:31 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 10:24-39 (NIV)



N N W J W S E B Y K J R R G S
 A Q M N W O T N S C P T W R H
 B T A P U A R U I E N J Q O U
 O E S U V M F T D K R Z W U X
 V A T U K D B R H E T V Y N L
 E C E D E J S E A Y N N A D F
 O H R M S H H S R I N T T N V
 I E E F G U S P A E D Y X B T
 G R S G F J L A P R D P S M V
 F O L L O W I R A F B Z C Q Z
 W H R J R P F R O U M F Q A H
 Q A Q F Z V E O F A L L U T O
 R I H E A D U W A U P N R R W
 Q R Y A Z Y D S K F B O D Y I
 F S R C C R O S S S W S O U L



STUDENT	GROUND	FOLLOW	PENNY	HAIRS
SPARROWS	FALL	TEACHER	WORTHY	SOUL
WORTH	LIFE	HEAD	MASTER	CROSS
NUMBERED	ABOVE	SERVANT	BODY	AFRAID

Summer Lunch Program

If you would like to volunteer to assist with the Summer Lunch Program, please call the church office (606-836-5634).

The groceries prices have gone up, especially the prices of hamburger. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Summer Lunch Program,

you can use pay pal, mail in a check or stop by the church office.

Thank you

*Devan Atkins
 Bill Thompson*



ADVANCE MEMORIAL

United Methodist Church

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advancechurch.net

A Look Back

Tues., April 5, 2011



If any of you are a fan of the TV show “Extreme Home Makeovers, you are familiar with the premise of the show, where Ty Pennington and a specialized team of builders give people a new way of life by completely renovating where they live. Various volunteers assist in remodeling, and chain businesses like Sears and Lowe’s donate items for the renovation.

The stories of most of

these people are ones of self sacrificing service to others, with them using all the means at their disposal, though sometimes with very little assets. These stories touch your soul.

Jesus tells us in John 12:26 that if we serve him, his Father “will honor.”

In Romans Chapter 12, Jesus lays out guidelines for our ministry here on earth, using our different gifts (v.6) in proportion to our faith.

We can all be of some service, no matter how little we think our talents are. All of us have some means to serve, whether it’s a phone call to someone, mailing a card, or taking someone on an errand.

This is all acceptable to God. His Son set the example by laying down his life for us. Jesus’ sacrifice was the greatest one of all.

Kerry Sluss
