

FIRST FRUITS

JULY 2010

NEWSLETTER OF SCOTLAND TRINITY

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is morning. The sun is not quite up. The birds are singing loudly. The crickets are making their music. This is our quiet time. This is God time. The temptation to fill it with something else is great. God time is that part of the day set apart to allow focus on what God wants for the day. I pray. I pray for those whom I know the needs. I pray for those with illness, those who are lonely, and those who are too busy to have God time. The temptation to turn on the TV and catch the weather report or check the email, or make breakfast for the family is great but this is God time. The birds are becoming quiet. I ask the question; Lord what will you have me do today? The temptation is great to hurry up, break out the day-timer and fill it up. God stills my hand. Stay with me He whispers.

Genesis gives a picture of God walking through the garden in the cool of the day calling to us. God time is so important that it is included in the "Ten Commandments". We are to take one day a week and set it apart without work to rest and make time with God. The Gospels tell us, Jesus went off by himself to be alone with His Father. When Jesus instructs us about prayer He says, "And when you pray, go into your room, close the door, and pray to

your Father who is unseen. Then your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you". Why is this so hard? Why is it so difficult to be alone with our creator? The temptation is to fill this time with something amusing, productive or distracting. God gently calls us back. It is almost as if He jealously guards this time. He desires no other gods to rule in our lives, yet they call, beckoning us to pull away from Him who loves us. I too often surrender to their call. I am too busy for this quiet time I argue. I have a lot of work to do, people to see, places to go. I unrealistically rationalize the importance of my tasks, pastoral duties, and schedule. God again calls and in the midst of this busy life, I realize how often I forsake the best for the good. God's call on our lives is not to do but to be. God forms us and molds us if we will give Him a chance.

Lord, thank you for continuing to call us back to your presence. Jesus please give us the strength to make time for you and to value our time together more than anything else. You offer us peace if we will seek only You.

Your servant in Christ,

Randy

Third Sunday Dinner

We will be having a BBQ for our third Sunday dinner after worship on July 18th. Digger Oster is in charge as well as other folks that have birthdays in July. Donations will be accepted for meat and buns. Please bring a dish to share. If you can help please contact Digger @ 255-1969



Coffee Café Workers

July 4 Karen Smith & Sue Frakes
July 11 Karen Smith & Kay Hinderes
July 18 Karen Melvin & Karen Smith
July 25 Darlene Whalon & Sue Frakes

Greeters

July 4 Vera McCoy
July 11 Marilyn Monninger
July 18 Marge Lynn
July 25 Digger Oster

Communion Servers

(July 4)
Jud Joyce
Debbie Lawver
Sherry Lowderman
Sue Frakes

Money Counters

July 4 Curt Lynn & Dave Monninger
July 11 Sherry Lowderman & Marge Lynn
July 18 Eloise McMillan & Dave Monninger
July 25 Darlene Whalon & Dave Monninger



Meetings and Events for July

July 12, 2010 6:00pm Outreach committee @ Karen Melvin's home
July 15, 2010 1:30pm Pres. Women
July 18, 2010 BBQ after worship
July 20, 2010 5:30pm Worship committee
6:30pm Session
July 25-July 30 6-8pm VBS @ Industry Methodist Church

“Solutions” Submitted by MOPS @ Scotland Trinity (from Parents Magazine, July 2010)

SIP ON THIS

To get my son to drink water, I add watermelon slices or orange segments to the pitcher. This flavored water has less sugar than juice does but still tastes slightly sweeter, so my son will drink it. Jessica Jones; Wilmington, Delaware

TYING TRICK

To help my daughter learn to tie her shoes, I threaded a sneaker with two different colored laces. It was much easier for her to understand what was happening (and to do it herself) when practicing with contrasting colors. Erica Salmon; Mullica Hill, New Jersey

CHALK IT UP

We recycled the large foam letters and pieces from my kids’ padded puzzle playmate into chalk stencils. We trace them on the pavement to create hopscotch boards or spell out words. Jennifer Thomas; Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

CLIP TIP

I hooked a regular size carabiner to the strap of my diaper bag. Now I have a place to hang my son’s coat and any small shopping bags while we are out and about, and I can keep my hands free. Nathan Riedel; Nashville, Tennessee

MAKE A SPLASH

My son hates having his sticky hands cleaned after eating, so once I wipe down his tray I pour a little water on it.

He has a blast splashing around, and his hands get clean without the fuss. Tara Bursa; Davie, Florida

GET THE PICTURE

I laminated one of my favorite photos of our family and attached it to the handle of my baby’s travel car seat. Now he loves to look at the familiar faces of loved ones wherever we go. Rivkah Eidex; Atlanta, Georgia

A BETTER GRIP

My dad taught my daughter how to pull up the triangle flaps on the sides of juice boxes and use them as holders. When she grabs those instead of the box itself, juice isn’t accidentally squeezed out – and there’s no sticky mess to clean up. Rachel Cummings; Durham, North Carolina

++++++

Hold That Thought!-by Luann Prater

“Another disciple said to him, ‘Lord, first let me go and bury my father.’”

Matthew 8:21 (NIV)

Devotion: In the movie *Bolt*, a self-centered Hollywood agent constantly tells his child star, “We’ll just stick a pin in that.” He holds an imaginary push pin in the air and pretends to shove it into an invisible cork board as he says it. He’s claiming he’ll save that thought until later and revisit it. But what he really means is, “Get out of here with that request! Not happening!”

The disciple in this key verse says basically the same thing to Jesus, “*Uh, master hold that thought. Love what*

you're doing here, want to be a part of it, really I do. Just need to step over here and handle this task first. You understand, right?" The three telling words in this passage are "first let me."

We are busy aren't we? If I tell you how busy I am maybe you won't ask me to do something else. Maybe you will think I'm super spiritual because I have so much going on in my life. Don't!

When I am the busiest I really am the most self-absorbed. I'm just being honest here. When there is so much to do often the most important things get shoved to the side or don't make the list at all. Have you ever said this, "Once I get _____ done, then my life will calm down"? You are not alone. It's an easy habit to develop, but a hard one to break!

Hi, my name is Luann and I'm addicted to activity. Embarrassed to admit it, but got to have a real moment with you. God makes a simple request in my life and yours: "Follow Me." But all too often those four words, "first let me _____," slip past my lips. You can fill in the blank with whatever you put before what Jesus is calling you to. Instead of Jesus telling you, 'let the dead bury their own dead' maybe He's saying:

"Follow Me, and let the kids wait a minute." "Follow Me, and let the phone ring." "Follow Me, and let the dishes sit." Follow Me and reschedule that appointment." Follow Me, and let the Facebook and Twitter friends wonder where you are." "Follow Me and put everything else on your to-do list after Me. "Deal?"

It's time to stop putting God on hold. It's time to stop using everything in our life

as an excuse not to do "first things first." Hold that thought. . .first let me drop to my knees and pray that God will give me a yearning to put Him first.

Dear Lord, I'm sorry that anything has taken first place in my life besides You. Forgive me and teach me this day to begin with You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.