

The Seed

Edited by Stacie Thomas



Word of Light
Community Church

Note from Elder Jon Smith:

Every church has if not all, at least some of the members of the 'Tater' family. The family head is Uncle Dictator. He has a tremendous need to be in charge, ignoring that Christ is the head of the Church. He assumes that since Jesus is not physically present- Christ obviously needs his help to run things his way. He can be a congregant, a deacon, an elder, song leader, committee chairman, or even the pastor. He thinks his opinion is the only one that matters and fights to have it his way no matter what. He can appear kind and benevolent at times, but Uncle Dictator can be a dangerous guy in the Church. His wife is Aunt Hesitator. She knows he's out of line but she hesitates to confront him, claiming it's useless to go against him- thinking that if he gets his way this one time, he'll settle and won't be so bad the next go around. She knows what should be done but hesitates to upset him. There's also Cousin Imitator; she isn't as abrasive as Uncle Dictator, but she can be just as aggravating. She's never happy with herself. She has many talents but instead of using them to play her part, she chooses to imitate others she admires. [The Church is a Body, like a human body, {1 Corinthians 12:12} and has many members- each play their important role in the work of the Church. God gives each one of us a place to operate properly. He distributes our roles and our gifts as He sees fit as it benefits the entire body. {1 Corinthians 12:17}] Another interesting character in the gene pool is Cousin Spectator. He is not interested in any job within the Church- though he likes to complain about others in their jobs. He doesn't want to serve, lead, and often doesn't really want to follow. He's content showing up occasionally to check out what's going on. Then we have Sister Agitator. She's as aggravating as Uncle Dictator- but in a more subtle way. She's one of the more active members of the Church, but is rarely visible, as her work is behind the scenes. She blends into the crowd and rarely desires the spotlight, but rest assured she's busy at her job as she sees it: the need to stir up trouble (gossip, character assassination, clique creating). She enjoys turmoil and gets great joy in seeing friendships destroyed, relationships strained and churches split [Proverbs 6:19] Then there is Sister Commentator. She isn't interested in leading or following- she's just content with sharing her comments on any and everything that goes on in the church. She's not likely to be a part of the ministry of her Church, but she gladly shares her opinion (with anyone) on those who are, making comments on the pastor and his sermon, the music selection and volume, the temperature in the sanctuary, what others wear, who does (and doesn't) attend service... Finally, there is Sweet Tater. She's a wonderful member, with the sweetest disposition. She loves Jesus, and it shows. She has her opinions, but understands grace and that Church is not about her, it's about Jesus. Her complete desire is to be a conduit of His grace to others. She's focused on the mission of the church and accept her position working quietly and diligently to do her part of the great mission. She gives liberally of her time, talent, treasures for the work of the Lord. She believes in missions and she practices it in her life. She is like this because of her personal relationship with Jesus Christ. She's a woman of prayer and her relationship with the Father shows in every aspect of her life. She's far from perfect, but she walks after the Spirit and her fruit is evident in her life. Every church has some of these members- but we must all try to be like Sweet Tater- not the others.

Note from The Editor:

I thought this was such a great little 'funny' to intro the sermon with- so I am intro'ing the newsletter with it as well. And quite honestly, I just didn't have it in me to write *another* introduction about how this sermon turned into another message of how this world is not about us. What are we doing Church? Why, after multiple (I mean, let's face it, we've lost count) messages about how we're not being enough, doing enough, loving enough to spread the love of Jesus to those around us. And we're not fully accepting it ourselves because we're too focused on ourselves. Get over yourself. Get over this world. I hope you're getting so tired of hearing all the messages coming back to this same point, (because again, quite frankly, I'm tired of writing about it) that you finally get up off your behind and start living the life Christ died for you to have. And it's NOT this life here. But before you get to where you're (hopefully) going, get out there and be His Disciple. Take as many people with you!

The Tater Family By Jon Smith

Romans 8:24-28. God has a purpose for every problem- and we have a lot of problems in our lives. He uses our circumstances to develop us and develop our characters through them. He depends on our circumstances to make us more like Jesus than just by reading our Bibles. John 16:33: no one is immune to the pain or is isolated from the suffering- no one gets through life problem free. Life is a series of problems; not all are big- each circumstance is significant in God's growth process. 1 Peter 4:12. God uses problems to draw us close to Jesus. Your most intimate experience of worship will most likely be in your darkest time (when you feel abandoned, out of options, broken-hearted, overwhelming pain) - because that's when we turn to God alone. It's those times that we pray our most heartfelt prayers. We learn things about Jesus we can only learn through suffering (ex: Joseph, Daniel, Jeremiah, Paul...- He didn't keep them from their problems- but He was with them every step of the way. Problems force us to look to God and depend on Him instead of ourselves. 2

Corinthians 1:9: Put everything in God's Hands. 'You never know that God is all you need until God is all you have.' Everything that happens to us has a Spiritual significance: Romans 8:28: [it doesn't say it will work out the way we want it to, or to a happy ending here on earth] We will have unhappy endings in this life because we live in a fallen and sinful world. Only in Heaven will everything be perfect. That's why Jesus told us to pray {Matthew 6:10}. We know our hope isn't based on wishful thinking or optimism- it's based on the truth that God is in control and He loves us. God's plan involves everything (ie: your mistakes, pain, sickness, debt, disasters, grief...) God can bring good out of the worst things in your life, even out of evil. The events in our life work together in God's plan- they're not isolated acts- but each part depends on the other to make us like Jesus. If we give God all the unpleasant experiences in our life, He will use them for good. God's specialty is to bring good out of the bad in our lives. God's purpose is greater than any of our problems, pain and even our sins. This promise is only for God's children- not for everyone. Romans 8:29; 1 Peter 1:7. When we've been refined by the fires of life- can people see Jesus in us- or do they see the bitterness? God intends to shape us like Jesus- going through the same experiences like Him (ex: loneliness, temptations, stress, criticism, rejection). Hebrews 5:8-9: Why would God exempt us from what He allowed His Son to experience? Romans 8:17: It's vital that we stay focused on God's Plan, and not on our pain, problems, circumstances; that's how Jesus endured the pain at the Cross; we should follow His example. Hebrews 12:2: Our focus is important: we must remember that pain is temporary, but our rewards are eternal. Philippians 4:4: We must rejoice over the Lord no matter what's happening. Rejoice in His care, wisdom, love, faithfulness, power, not our circumstances or our pain. Can others see Jesus in us and our Church? We must become workable for God. We are God's masterpiece {Ephesians 2:10}. He created us the way we are. Don't say you're too young, too old, too tired, too weak- Jesus never complained about all He went through at Calvary... Next time we think it's 'too bad' to rejoice or pray... we need to look at Calvary and at what Jesus did for us. What are we going to do for Him? Are we going to live in our circumstances; live in our trials... or are we going to hand it over to Him?

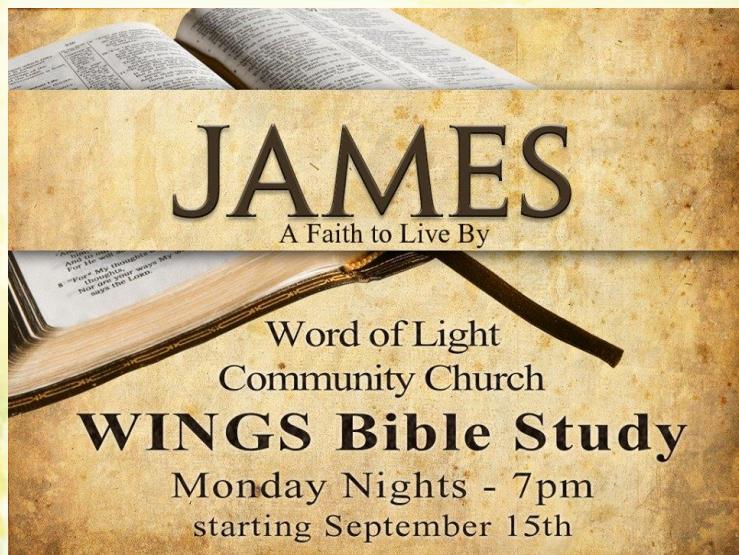
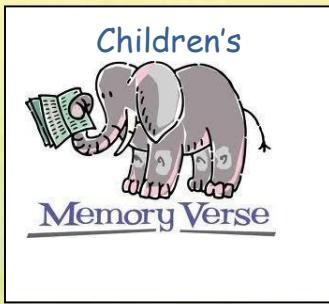


The Tater Family

Romans 8:24-28 (KJV)

²⁴For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?²⁵ But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. ²⁹For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

To submit pieces for publication to or for questions regarding The Seed, please contact Stacie Thomas: info@wordoflightcc.com



Children's Church:
"Let us keep looking to Jesus,"
Hebrews 12:2a NIRV

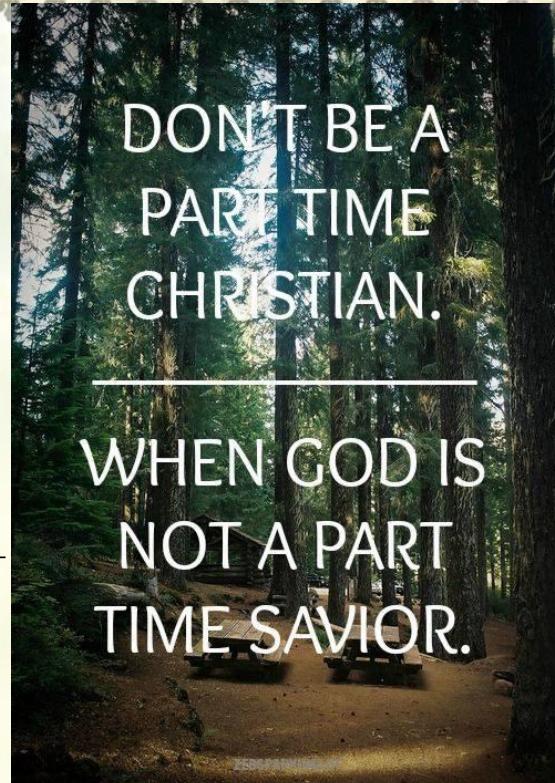
September Birthdays

- 3- Daniel Hardwick, Steph Davis
- 7- Peter Rose
- 13- Josh Holstein
- 20- Mitch Robinson
- 24- Noah Yanero

September Events

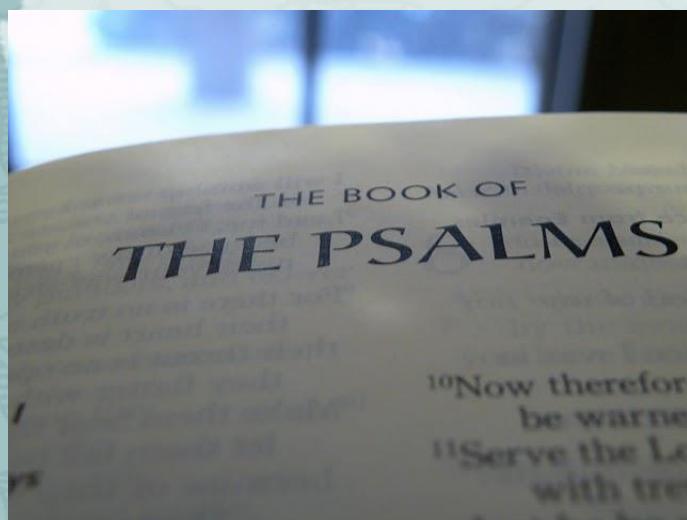
- 14- VBS Reflection and Look Ahead
- 15- WINGS study of James begins
- 19-20- Ladies Retreat @ Howells Mill Christian Camp
- 24- FLOCK Corn Maze Field Trip
- 26-28- FLOCK Seneca Rocks My Socks Trip

***Don't forget to bring food pantry items on Sunday**



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P.A.C.T. (Prayer Accountability Commitment Trust)
(9:30am Sundays) Adult Sunday School class



PACT resumes studying the book of Psalms; looking at the Hebrew writing styles, the authors, and the many purposes of the Psalms. The Psalms give us everything from prophecy, to history, to learning how to worship, to learning how to pray, to learning righteous living, to learning expressions of every heartfelt emotion to God!

Next Chapter: 43 & 44- Read ahead & be prepared to discuss!

MINISTRIES:



The Women's Bible Study meets every Monday evenings at 7:00.

W.I.N.G.S. (Women In Need of God's Strength)
 Women's Bible Study (Every Monday 7:00pm)
 All women aged 18 and over are invited to join the ladies with unique bible studies. They are on hiatus until September 15 when they will begin studying the book of James.

<http://www.wordoflightcc.com/women.html>

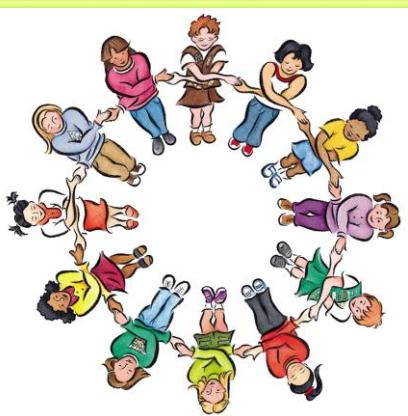
For information regarding the group, please see Ginny Blankenship.



The Youth Group meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 and Wednesday evenings at 6:30.

The F.L.O.C.K. (Faith, Love and Obedience to Christ the King) Uth Group (Sundays 10:30am and Wednesdays at 6:30pm)

Youth in grades 6-12 are encouraged to join in the activities of our Youth Group, focusing on the core values of the Christian Church: Fellowship, Missions, Worship, Evangelism and Teaching.



Children's Sunday School meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 and Children's Church during the sermon.

Children: Sunday School and Children's Church- boys and girls in kindergarten through sixth grade. The goal of these classes is to "bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4)

WORD OF LIGHT COMMUNITY CHURCH · PO BOX 256· CULLODEN, WV 25510

www.wordoflightcc.com

Pastor Doug Doss



West Side Story Project

As you've probably heard by now, our Church has taken the step in purchasing land that came upon us during our Church-wide fasting... With donations and our savings included, we now have a total of over \$50000 towards our building and land fund goal. Our goal to buy the land outright and start the ground breaking

HAS BEEN REACHED!!!!

Won't you join us in our Building Pledge Drive!?!?!
We've reached our goal to start- but we need your help to keep it going!

KEEP PRAYING FOR THE BUILDING!

<http://wordoflightcc.com/WSSP.html>



Looking for a previous version of The Seed? Find it on the website along with its' corresponding sermon link- Now you can catch up on any sermons you missed, or review them when you need it. <http://www.wordoflightcc.com/nLarchive>



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Community Church

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Culloden, WV 25510



SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Sunday School-9:30 a.m.
Worship-10:45 a.m.

Wednesday

Adult Service-7:00 p.m.
FLOCK Uth Service-6:30 p.m.



**S
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T**



or get OUT

Matthew 13:1-23