

# Sunrise Christian Church

## October 2018 Family Newsletter

As a Church called to Love, Learn and Lead- to love God with all that we are and all that we have, to learn to be like Jesus, and to lead others to the saving cross of Christ.

### Called to honor God with our time and talent



“Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching”- Hebrews 10:24-25.

## Hospitality



Hospitality is the art of making someone feel at home- in your home!

The early church was encouraged to be hospitable because you never knew when you might entertain angels unaware (Heb. 13:2).

Apart from angels, we are encouraged to be hospitable to one another. Concerning the woman Phoebe, the Apostle Paul encouraged the church in Rome to “receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need”- Rom. 16:2.

Unfortunately, in our modern American life we’ve lost the art of hospitality. We’re too engaged in television, sports activities, and in our coming and goings to be as hospitable as we should be. So what we need to do is to be very intentional about setting aside time to invite people into our homes and lives. I don’t know about you but my weeks seem to simply fly by. So if I’m not careful I can have good intentions to do something but before I know it another week has gone by! So we need to make specific plans and set times to invite people to our homes. Yes, it may seem inconvenient at first, but before we know it we’re enjoying ourselves so much that we can’t understand why we hadn’t do it sooner!

## Our spiritual battles:

The Apostle Paul tells us that we are involved in a spiritual war, writing: “For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms”- Ephesians 6:12.

Not wanting us to fight this battle by our own strength, God has equipped us with what we’ll need: “Stand firm then, with the **belt of truth** buckled around your waist, with the **breastplate of righteousness** in place, and with **your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace**.”

In addition to all this, take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the **helmet of salvation** and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God”- Eph. 6:14-17.



And after we have done everything else, to simply “**stand**”- Eph. 6:13.



“To all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God” - Gospel of John, chapter 1, verse 12.

The word “believe” has two distinct qualities to it. One is to simply accept what is given- head knowledge, some say. The other definition is to put into practice what you know or believe- to “walk” in what you believe. James uses a closely related word to “belief” when he tells us that he will show us his “faith” by what he does, encouraging us to do the same (James 2:14).



The tightrope walker Charles Blondin illustrated this concept of making your actions match your beliefs. In the mid-1800’s he delighted crowds by waking a tightrope which was suspended from one side to the other over the roaring Niagra Falls. Part of his routine was to push a wheelbarrow over this tightrope. On getting to the other side, he would ask the crowds if they thought he could push the wheelbarrel back across but this time with someone in it. Some would shout “No!” while others shouted “Yes!”

Then he’d ask those who had said yes as to which of them wanted to volunteer. Seems that none were eager to take him up on this request. They were exemplifying the first part of belief- to make a mental assent that something was true. But they weren’t showing the second part- putting feet to what they believed!

Jesus wants us to put feet to what we believe, to show it in our actions. So much so that our faith is empty without actions to back it up (see James 2:20).

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### Upcoming Events

- \*Faithful Men men’s breakfast- 7:30am, Saturday, Oct. 6 @ Rusty’s
- \* Cove Christian Camp’s work day- Saturday, Oct. 6
- \* Baskets of Love Food collection- Sunday, Oct. 7
- \* Crockpot Sunday- Sunday, Oct. 7
- \*Cove Christian Camp’s Fun Day- Saturday, Oct. 13.
- \* SCC’s Movie Night- 6pm, Thursday, Oct.18
- \* SCC’s Trunk or Treat- 5-8pm, Wednesday, Oct. 31

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**There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens-Ecclesiastes 3:1**

### Just for laughs



A pastor was talking to the church organists. “When I finish my sermon,” he said, “I’ll ask for all those in the congregation who want to contribute \$500.00 to the church’s mortgage to stand up. In the meantime, you can provide appropriate music. “Any suggestions?” asked the organist. “You might try the Star-Spangled Banner,” replied the pastor.

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“I want to tithe,” a man told his pastor. “I want to give 10% of my income to the church, really I do.” So when my income was just \$50.00 a week, I did not have a problem giving the church \$5.00 each week. And when I was successful in business and my weekly income was \$500.00. I easily gave \$50.00 a week to my church each week. But now that my income is \$5000.00 per week, I just can’t bring myself to write the check for \$500.00 a week to the church.

“Well, let’s pray about this,” the pastor said. “Oh, dear God, please make this man’s income \$500.00 a week again so that he can tithe.”

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Written on the outer wall of a trucker’s diner was this scripture passage: **If God is for us, who can be against us?** Scrawled directly below was this reply: *The Highway State Patrol!*