

THE JOYFUL NOISE

Leon Springs Presbyterian Church

...a place of grace!



Words from Wayne

Joel Weldon wrote a wonderful short story entitled, *The Moso Bamboo*, which has a wonderful image to share with those who are striving to **GROW** in their faith. The story is as follows:

The moso is a bamboo plant that grows in China and the Far east. After the moso is planted, no visible growth occurs for up to five years—even under ideal conditions. Then, as if by magic, it suddenly begins growing at the rate of nearly two and one half feet per day, reaching a full height of ninety feet within six weeks. But it's not magic. The moso's rapid growth is due to the miles of roots it develops during those first five years, five years of getting ready.

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In the opening of Psalm 1, we find what we (you and I) are to be doing to get ready for growth as beloved children of God. God's Word maintains, "*Blessed is the man...who delights in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruits in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers*"(Psalm 1:1-3).

This month, I encourage the members and visitors of LSPC to take extra time to be rooted in the Word of God. Read it by yourself. Read it with your family. Read it with your friends. As a faithful steward of the time God has given you, root your life in that which helps you **GROW** as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory!

Blessings,

Wayne

WORSHIP



KIDS' DAY OUT

Please help us get the word out about our amazing KDO program, which seeks to *Glorify God* by providing a quality, loving, Christ-centered early childhood education.

Opportunities to GROW through Worship

The Worship Commission is planning a Totenfest Service for Sunday, November 22nd. During the service, there will be a time of remembrance of those who have died in the past year. This remembrance is planned to celebrate lives of members of the congregation, as well as family and friends of the congregation.

Throughout Christian history, the Church has and continues to remember and celebrate the lives of faithful people. Totenfest is a word created by the Evangelical Church when it was formed in the 19th century Prussia. The word refers to the liturgical remembrance of those who died during the past year. While the celebration parallels the more common All Saints Day tradition, Totenfest has been traditionally celebrated on the final Sunday of the Church year.

Below you will find a registration form that can be filled out and placed in the offering plate during any worship service between now and November 15th. All names collected will be placed on our list and read during the worship service.

TOTENFEST REGISTRATION

As part of LSPC's Totenfest Celebration, please include the name of :

(Please cut out form and place it in offering plate)

Mondays and Fridays



9:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm.



18 months to Pre-K



Monthly Tuition \$130.00

The program offers:

- Certified, experienced teachers
- Assistants in each classroom
- Low student/teacher ratios
- Certified CPR and First Aid-trained staff
- We follow NISD's holiday schedule

Call (210) 602-7897

or

Email: lspckdo@sbcglobal.net

Step By Step



Many of you know that I had a long bout with depression during the long slow death of my mom. She had a stroke and was never really herself again. She suffered from dementia and then went into full blown Alzheimer's. It was during this time period that I put on so much weight. Rather than relying fully upon the Lord, I relied on food. I just kept stuffing myself with food to feed my depression. Even after my mom passed away, I kept mourning her.

But the Lord works in mysterious ways. Just as Jesus used so many parables in His teaching, I think God sends messages to us still today in the form of metaphors. After a year of still suffering the loss of my mom, I happened to buy one of those bags of salad at HEB. When I ate into the salad, there was a small dirt clod in it that made mud in my mouth. I have a very low gag threshold and so I began throwing up. Then, I called Bob to tell him and began throwing up again. It was so awful.

But, the more I thought about it, the more I saw it as a message from God. A metaphor for my life. The message I got was this: To keep mourning over my mom's stroke, the loss of her mind and her eventual death and to keep holding on to my depression was as useful as eating dirt. The lesson was so plain to me. I had to let it go and put myself in God's hands.

I also believe that God brought renewed purpose to mine and Bob's lives. We had spent a large part of our married lives being what I call pew warmers. That is, when we did go to church. We attended some Sundays and never really got involved in the life of the church. We really didn't serve anyone but ourselves. But, we started getting involved when we were at Trinity Baptist Church and then the Lord saw fit to bring us here. Our faith grew even more.

Wayne seems to prepare his sermons just for me, personally. And I have studied the Bible more in the past few years than in the previous twenty years. And I mean, really study, not just read. My prayer life has increased. And we have made so many wonderful Christian friends. God is alive and well in my life. And I experience a true joy knowing that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

I'm here today to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. God is my Creator. Jesus Christ is my Savior. And His Holy Spirit is my Comforter. My life is so full because of this relationship.

-- Nel Pisors



Financial status: As of October the 25th our expenses are \$1,600 greater than our income. We are fortunate as a Church to have no debt. That means our income can be applied to what is important---worship and mission projects. However, it would be nice if at years end we would be able to either break even or report a small surplus. It was noted that a number of families are behind in their pledges. We are aware that people forget and fall behind, so as a reminder to those that may be behind, we will mail pledge statements the 1st of December.

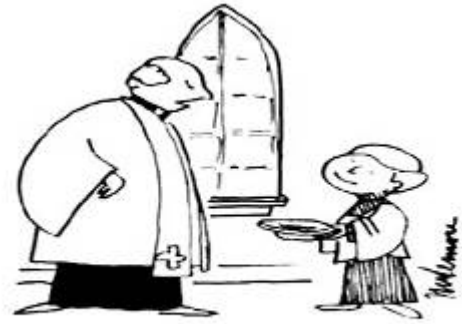
Stewardship: We have mailed 90 some commitment cards and have already received a few back. By the time this Newsletter reaches you Commitment Sunday, November 1 will have passed. We are looking for 100% participation, so even if you missed Sunday, please return your commitment by mail, drop it off at the office or place it in the offering on Sunday.

Kids Day Out (KDO): Organizationally, KDO has become a project of the Administration Commission. Our Church members have responded to Wayne's call for help. We have agreed to support KDO with organization and marketing assistance until next summer at which time a status review will be held.

Personnel Sub – Committee: A sub-committee of two elders and a member of the congregation was formed to perform the annual evaluation of our pastor and recommend any changes to his "terms of call". Any change in his call must be approved by the congregation.

Please join us for our next meeting which will take place in the Church office on Tuesday, Nov. 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Your Administration Commission



"When you hand the ushers the offering plates, I wish you would stop saying, 'Here... Go stick it to 'em!'"

Opportunities to GROW through GIVING

I imagine that when you read this, Commitment Sunday, November 1, is already behind us. Hopefully you have made a commitment and either placed your envelope on the Communion table on November 1 or mailed your commitment. But in case you haven't here are some thoughts:

"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." A person who is passionate about someone or something tends to be very generous and giving both with their time and money.

If you are a new church member or have been a member for some time and haven't been involved in church activities, think seriously about getting involved in one or more of our projects or activities. You won't regret it. For those of you already involved, think about spending a little more time in the support of our church and community. Remember that it takes concern, commitment, dedication and love to give one's self. In the words of Jesus at the conclusion of the parable of the Good Samaritan: "Go and do likewise."

It does take money to run the Church. While we work hard to keep costs down, they keep going up each year. Also keep in mind that we will more than likely run a deficit. So we are normally asked to increase our commitment to keep up with increased expenses.

If you haven't filled out the commitment cards, please do so now and place them in an envelope, attention Treasurer. Then either mail it, place it in the offering plate on Sunday or drop it by the office. It's never too late. If you have misplaced yours we have plenty in the office and will have some available at Sunday's service.

PROPERTIES



We are putting together teams to help maintain the Church grounds. This is a wonderful way to **GROW** as a disciple through serving in the Church. Men, women, and age appropriate youth who are interested in helping should contact Bob Pisors at bob.pisors@sbcglobal.net.

Please join us for our next meeting, which will be held Tuesday, Nov. 17th at 6:15 p.m.



VISITORS

LSPC stops to give God thanks for all those who visited the Church during a worship service this past month. We pray that each of you were touched by God's grace and love during the service and we hope you will return to worship with us someday soon.

Please remember, disciples of Jesus **GROW** in and through their commitments to worship! We encourage you to keep **GROWING!**

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE



Debbie Culver will be hostess for the November 15th church dinner held after worship in the Fellowship Hall. You are asked to bring a main dish, side dish, salad or dessert. This meal is a great opportunity to **GROW** through the act of fellowship. Come share Jesus with us.



LSPC cookbook will be on sale each Sunday before and after worship. The cookbooks are only \$15.00, and make wonderful gifts. Get your copies before they are sold out! Proceeds will help fund the cost of the meat for the lunches we provide a couple times a year for the Warrior and Family Center at Ft. Sam.



We are asking for volunteers to help decorate the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and put up the Nativity on 28 Nov from 10:00 - Noon. Coffee, juice and pastries will be served to entice you to come help.



We are always looking for new faces to help with Congregational Life. Please join us for our next meeting, which will take place following worship on Sunday, November 22nd.



We are pleased to provided the following opportunities to **GROW** through study each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.:

Babies through age 4 meet in the Nursery.

Kinder through 5th Grade students meet in Room 1.

Jr. High students meet in the Scout Building.

Adult Sunday School in November

(Fellowship Hall)

This month we will **GROW** as disciples through a study of 1 Samuel, which will be lead by Nel Pisors.

Do you know how Hanna found hope?

What do you know about the Ark of the Covenant?

Do you know who wrote 1 Samuel?

Do you know how the lives of the children of Israel parallel with your own?

Do you know who the first king of Israel was?

If you know the answers to these questions, come share your insight. If you don't know the answers, come learn with us. Perhaps you may learn more about God's plan for your life.



- 11/2 Gary Morris
- 11/3 Haylee Fuentes, Calleen Friedel
- 11/4 Margaret Thompson
- 11/10 Josh Lomers
- 11/11 Mary Turner, Brittany Poisso
- 11/14 Brad Chambers
- 11/15 Erin Lomers, Victoria Beason
- 11/19 Juanell Feller
- 11/23 Pat Bahr, Bob Keiser, Dee Bormann
- 11/27 Dolores Patton
- 11/28 Barbara Allison
- 11/30 Rudy Cran

YOUTH GROUP

All Junior High and Senior High youth are invited to join us for food, fun, and fellowship as we strive to **GROW** as disciples of Jesus Christ. Please note these opportunities:

<p>Nov. 1st 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Adultery destroys!</p>	
<p>Nov. 8th 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Stealing is not a sport!</p>	
<p>Nov. 15th 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Lying harms others!</p>	
<p>Nov. 22nd 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Coveting overlooks blessings!</p>	
<p>Nov. 29th</p>	<p><i>Sorry, no group on the last Sunday of the month!</i></p>	

WITNESS



Be watching for information on the 2009 *Christmas Joy Offering!* Half of the offering supports racial ethnic schools and colleges where students can discover their call and develop the skills to respond to it. The other half supports the assistance programs of Board of Pensions, keeping faith with those who have responded to that call with their lives, confident that the Church would help them if they ever needed it.



LSPC is again sponsoring some special families that are in need of gifts and other essentials this holiday season! Please join us in making Christmas brighter for some children in need! Cash donations are now being accepted, please mark your check donations “Christmas Families.”

For more information please contact Bunny Bachetta or Marilyn Wells.

**We invite you to join us for our next meeting,
which will take place following worship on
Sunday, November 22nd.**

SERMON PROJECTIONS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Scriptures & Sermon</i>
11/01/09 Communion All Saints' Day	John 10:1-10 Galatians 6:11-18 Sermon: Carrying the Marks of Christ
11/08/09 32 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Rev. David Marks (Wayne is out on study leave)
11/15/09 33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Psalm 147:1-11 Mark 1:40-45 1 Corinthians 9:16-27 Sermon: Spiritually Striving Forward
11/22/09 <i>Totenfest</i> Christ the King	Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-38 Sermon: Who is King?
11/29/09 1 st Sunday in Advent	Rev. Marti Stratton (Wayne is out on vacation)

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