

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sunday, June 28, 1998

GREETING / VISITORS

- A. A word of greeting....we hope we shall have the opportunity to greet you....either at the door, or time permitting...be free in the sharing.....Fill out. Or sign one....COME, worship with us. COME, work with us in the....
- B. Doing the "Lord's work" here....since 1837...a BEACON of light and love to thousands across these many years....Roots are deep. Fourth building. Minister here "in the name of Christ" and it is.....
- C. Members: be sure to wear your name tags. Greet a visitor. And greet a child....reach down and grasp the hand of that young life. Get his or her name...

PARISH CONCERNS

- A. Parish concerns are "lifted up"....review them...noting:
 - 1. The WORD of THANK YOU...to our choir members and to Dr. Woodside...for their many gifts to us across these ten months....last Sunday until the Fall. Choir picnic planned for today....
 - 2. Volunteers are needed for the Feeding Program across these summer weeks...three Saturdays of the month.
- B. Next Sunday, Michael and Susan Reaves will be with us....thus beginning a ten month ministry in our midst. Benefit from their help in a number of important ways....Adult Bible Class, Sunday School for the children, Feeding program.
- C. Quiet weeks of the Summer now approach. I shall be with you the next two Sundays....breaking in Michael Reaves both Sundays, and our friend of many years, KEN HALCOTT, will be preaching on July 19th and 26th. Summer Sundays are a bit more relaxed...with good opportunity for casual walks and conversations with others....helping us to get to know each other better. Coffee hour...punch and cookie hour.....sign up to lend a hand.
- D. Jesus said:

"It is more blessed to give.."

PASTORAL PRAYER: June 28, 1998

O GOD, OUR FATHER....we thank YOU for the freshness of this summer Sunday, and for all that it means to us in the way of inspiration, reassurance, forgiveness and perspective.

WE ARE THANKFUL for the devoted hearts that gather here from Sunday to Sunday to worship YOU...to hear YOUR Word, to try to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, to sing in the choir, to teach a Sunday School Class of children, to usher in your house....

WE ARE THANKFUL, too, for the many blessings that have touched and warmed our individual lives at so many times and at so many places....our homes, our loved ones, our Church, and all of the joys of friendship and fellowship that we share together in this place.

OUR LIVES ARE FILLED with gratitude for the lift that we receive from sharing in the wonders of YOUR handiwork...

The warmth of the sun,
The shade of trees,
The green of the grass,
The grandeur of the seas,
The majesty of the mountains.

IN THIS HOUR OF WORSHIP, we would turn aside from the pains and problems that have been troubling us, and here in the silence of YOUR sanctuary rest our tense and worried spirits in that love that rests at the heart of all life, that love that will never let us down nor let us go!

HERE, WE WOULD SEEK to gain a new insight,
to see life from higher ground,
to see YOU at the heart of all things.

AND HERE WE WOULD PRAY, too - not only for ourselves, but also for our fellow man -

For the less fortunate - the poor, the hungry, the distressed, the bereaved, the suffering.

Forgive us our sins, and keep us calm within. Speak to each of us the word we need to hear...the word of peace, of love, of patience.

TO THY GUIDANCE, we commit ourselves - our Church, our nation, our world. Do with us as THOU wilt. In the name of the Good Shepherd who knows his sheep by name and who gently calls them to HIMSELF. In Christ's spirit we pray.