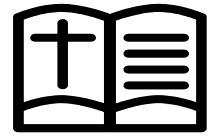


Church of the Savior



September 23, 2003

Pastor's Note: Lou Schumann sent the following story to me, and I wanted us to consider its message as we continue to look ahead to our future. As the Body of Christ, we are to strive to do all we can to further the Gospel, yet, sometimes we become so fixated on all of the little "problems" that we fail to see or even try to understand the greater picture. We never give thanks for the unplanned annoyances and problems. We must strive to serve God, but it's about time that we realize we are probably right where God wants and needs us to be at this time in His-story ~ **Pastor Thea**

Next time your morning seems to be going wrong and you can't seem to find the car keys and you hit every traffic light, don't get mad or frustrated; praise God instead, because God is at work watching over you. After Sept. 11th, I happened to call a man on business that I didn't know and have not talked to again. But this day, he felt like talking. He was head of security of a company that had invited the remaining members of a company who had been decimated by the attack on the Twin Towers to share their office space. With his voice full of awe he told me stories of why these people were alive and their counterparts were dead. And all the stories were just 'little' things.

As you might know, the head of the company got in late that day because his son started kindergarten. Another fellow was alive because it was his turn to bring donuts. One woman was late because her alarm clock didn't go off in time. One was late because of being stuck on the NJ Turnpike because of an auto accident. One missed his bus. One spilled food on her clothes and had to take time to change. One's car wouldn't start. One went back to answer the telephone. One had a child that dawdled and didn't get ready as soon as he should have. One couldn't get a taxi. The one that struck me was the man who put on a new pair of shoes that morning, took the various means to get to work but before he got there, he developed a blister on his foot. He stopped at a drugstore to buy a Band-Aid. That is why they are alive today.

Now when I am stuck in traffic, miss an elevator, or turn back to answer a ringing telephone...all the little things that annoy me...I think to myself, this is exactly where God wants me to be at this very moment. May God continue to bless you with all those annoying little things...may you remember their possible purpose.

Notes From Deb...an overall update

I had so much to say, I thought I'd write one BIG article. Just wanted to update everyone on all of the "happenings". We're really moving ahead with programs for Young Children. Once a month, the Youth do a mentoring night where children and youth spend time together. We now have a children's Choir and Craft time on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:30. And...there are countless things on the drawing board. So, if you're a parent of a younger child from nursery-6th grade, come on and be a part of a growing & exciting ministry.

**Our Youth Group has grown in number and in Spirit. I am so proud of our Youth. There are plans this year for continual mission projects, fund raising events like C.O.T.S.Y. Café, a Spring Break ski trip to Breckenridge, Youth Quake, and our BIG project of doing the musical "Godspell" in early Summer in conjunction with Sante Fe Presbyterian...to raise Mission money for our own Wes Baxter.

**I also have plans for Family Fun Nights ahead for kids of all ages and their parents so that we can grow spiritually and as families.

**Our Adult Choir is also growing. I've had to move in chairs and they continue to work hard and devote their time and talents. We have plans for a beautiful holiday Season of Music and in the spring, a musical that will focus in on beautiful hymn arrangements with narration about the composers who wrote these great hymns of the Faith.

It is all part of God's creative process! So, come and grow with us. Plug in, bring your spirit and energy to an ever-growing Ministry here at COTS. Stay alert to upcoming event...what a great church!

In His Love ~ Deb



COTS Swap Meet

Do you have an item you'd like to sell, but don't know how to go about doing so?

Do you have a service (i.e.- lawn mowing, babysitting, painting, piano lessons...) you think the congregation could use, but don't know how to "advertise"? Here's the place for you to buy/sell items and offer your expertise services...

COTS Swap Meet!

Please call or e-mail the church office (with your items for sell or wanted items, as well as services offered) anytime during the day, as we will be posting information in upcoming newsletters.



Lucille Robinson's turtle needs a good home!
She comes with her own tank and is easy to care for.
Please contact the church office if interested!

Pastor Thea will begin a **Pastor's Intensive Study on Sunday, October 26th through November 9th during the Sunday school hour (9:30).** She will be leading with the book, "Being Disciples of Jesus in a Dot.Com World" written by Ted V. Foote, Jr and P. Alex Thornburg. This book was written by the same authors who wrote Being Presbyterian in the Bible Belt. If you are interested, *please call the church office* so we can order a copy of the book for you and so you can read the first three chapters in advance of the first class. Be sure to join Pastor Thea for this interesting study!

The Staff at Church of the Savior has begun a **prayer ministry** during Staff meeting on Mondays. Each week, we will randomly take ten member's names from the congregation and say a special prayer for those people. The office will mail a postcard to those ten people each week simply to let them know they were thought of and prayed for on that particular day. Thank you for letting us share your name in the Staff's weekly blessing and prayer.

THANK YOU

to all the church members from the Reeves Family for the cards, prayers, and flowers during Dorothy's recovery.



This Sunday

is week three of a six-week marriage enrichment video series.

The videos are titled "Hidden Keys To Loving Relationships"

by Gary Smalley and will be hosted by

Rev. Thea from

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Please come and bring a few snacks to share and join us for the great video!

In Our Prayers...

Dorothy Reeves

Will Kamp

Nancy Murphy

John Robinson

**if you know of someone who would benefit from a visit by our Caring Commission or Pastor, please call the church office.*

Happy Birthday! 

October...

Mike McKee ~ 03rd
Sam Billerbeck ~ 12th
Thea McKee ~ 16th



LIFE LINE SCREENING

will be here October 27th from 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Life Line will be doing ultrasound screening in the Activity Center for the following conditions:
Stroke, Peripheral Arterial Disease, Aneurysm, and Osteoporosis.

These tests, which are non-invasive and completely painless will take only ten minutes each and are offered at \$45 per test (or less). **Pre-registration is required by calling 1-800-407-4557.** For more information, please see the posters in the hallway or ask Dale at the church office for a flyer. With early detection, these problems can be treated and the screening results are sent directly to you to allow you to work with your doctor.



FUNNY FINDS...

(from Howard Swanson)

New Spin on 'Prodigal Son' is a tongue twister

Feeling footloose and frisky, a featherbrained fellow forced his fond father to fork over his farthings. He flew far to foreign fields and frittered his fortune, feasting fabulously with faithless friends. Finally facing famine and fleeced by his fellows-in-folly, he found himself a feed flinger in a filthy farmyard. Fairly famished, he fain would have filled his frame with foraged food from the fodder fragments.

"Fooley, my father's flunkies fare far fancier," the frazzled fugitive fumed feverishly, frankly facing facts. Frustrated by failure and filled with foreboding, he fled forthwith to his family. Falling at his father's feet, he floundered forlornly, "Father, I have flunked and fruitlessly forfeited family favor." But the faithful, forestalling further flinching, frantically flagged the flunkies to fetch forth the finest fatling and fix a feast.

The fugitive's fraternal faultfinder frowned on the fickle forgiveness of former folderol. His fury flashed, but fussing was futile. The farsighted father figured, "Such filial fidelity is fine, but what forbids fervent festivity for the fugitive not found. Unfurl the flags with flaring, let fun and frolic freely flow. Former failure is forgotten, folly forsaken. Forgiveness forms the foundation for future fortune."



Each month, the newsletter will spotlight a **"COTS Members of the Month"**. This is to allow the church family to 'get to know' one another better...enjoy!



The month of September is Jerrel and JonEvah Murray:

Jerrel and JonEvah have been married 51 years and had two sons. Andrew, age 49, and his wife, Deidra, live in Oklahoma City. Randall would have been 47 in August, but died in September of 2002 from Melanoma. Sean, Randall's son, is 22 years of age and is their only grandchild. Andrew is self-employed as a CPA, CVA (Certified Valuation Analyst). Sean is enrolled at both Oklahoma City Community College and Oklahoma University studying Clinical Psychology.

Jerrel and JonEvah are both retired; Jerrel from 34 year's service with the IRS after a short stint in the US Marine Corp and a few years of employment by private industry in accounting. JonEvah retired after 33 years teaching piano and music theory and 13 years selling furniture at Ballengers. Since retirement Jerrel has devoted much time to Scottish cultural enrichment by serving in various capacities and offices on the Board of United Scottish Clans of Oklahoma, Inc., which he helped to form in 1986. JonEvah is a member of Sigma Alpha Iota Alumnae (a music fraternity) and a recent volunteer at the Presbyterian Urban Mission.

JonEvah became a member of DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) in the past year. Jerrel is an FSA Scot (Fellow of Scottish Antiquaries). They both are involved in genealogical research of their family trees. With all their activities, they do find time to spend in "hobbies" of a sort. JonEvah loves to do water aerobics at a nearby spa and Jerrel loves to cook; usually some new Scottish recipe, as well as spending a great deal of time sitting in front of his computer researching all sorts of things from religion to Scottish history, but his favorite subject is surnames.

Church of the Savior
5600 NW 63rd
Oklahoma City, OK 73132

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:



SUNDAY

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:50 a.m.
Youth	5:00 p.m.

MONDAY

Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Mobile Meals	9:00 a.m.
Staff Meeting	1:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Quilters	10:00 a.m.
Choir	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Men's Breakfast	7:00 a.m.
Mobile Meals	9:00 a.m.

FYI~

The ballots have been counted and here are the results for next summer's worship schedule:

There is a clear mandate for 10:00 a.m.

(81 votes for 10:00 and 35 for 9:30).

Thank you for voting!

NEW MEMBER CLASS

will begin **September 28th** through
October 12th.

Class will be held during the
Sunday School time
(9:30 a.m.)

& will be in Pastor Thea's office.

Staff:



Pastor: **Rev.Thea A. McKee**

Director of Music, Youth & Young

Families: **Deb Roberts**

Office Administrator: **Dale Gomez**

Organist: **Lou Ann Rice**

Financial Secretaries: **Georgia Gandall &**

Janie Thompson

Treasurer: **Lucille Whiteturkey**