

CAMP LIBERTY

Camp Liberty will be joining the festivities at the ChokeCherry Festival this year!
We are excited to be a positive tool in our community as we join this event.

Mark your calendars now for -

Saturday, August 16, 2008

Harmon Park

10 am—4 pm

There will be many opportunities for YOU to be involved!

Watch for more details coming soon!!!!



A Free Voice

“Thinking Out Loud”

By Pastor Daryl Thompson



Well, it is that time of year again. Band Day, our community's formal spring/summer kick-off event, is on our doorstep. I often hear the bands practicing from my office. It is a pleasant spring-time sound. I look forward to them in a bittersweet way this year knowing that it will be my last as your pastor.

Beth and I have been preparing for our move. We are now down to just weeks instead of months. We anticipate moving May 27-29. The big project has been sorting through things to determine what to keep and what not to keep. After living in the same house for twenty plus years and raising our four children there, you discover that you have a house full of stuff.

This has made me think of the instruction of Hebrews 12:1-2. We are told to lay aside every encumbrance so that we can run the race of life with endurance. Encumbrances are not necessarily bad things. They are simply things that weigh us down and thus slow us down. The writer does not want things to make it hard for us to live this life well for Jesus. With this in mind, I am trying to let go of things that I have collected but will likely never use and do not need.

The box of trophies and the box of ribbons and medals that I had accumulated from horse shows and sports competitions fell into that category. I admit that it was memorable to look at them again and to remember back to the times when they were won. But what am I to do with them? They have remained in boxes the entire time we have lived here. Beth had a good idea. Why not take a picture of them and keep the picture? I admit that it took a little while to be comfortable with the idea but it was a good one. So I recently laid them out on the dining room table and took a few pictures.

There is something freeing about not having so much stuff. It is easier and less expensive to move. It is also easier to keep our focus on Jesus when we do not have so much encumbering us. If we were not moving, I would not take the time to get rid of many of these things. So there are some benefits to making a move after all these years.

In light of our upcoming move I have been reflecting on the past twenty three years. What are the memories that stand out? I remember special Christmas programs and services. I remember AWANA and Vacation Bible School activities. I remember weddings and funerals. I remember baptisms and child dedications. I remember concerts with the like of Geoff Moore and the Distance. I remember small groups and social gatherings. But mostly I remember people. People and relationships are what make all of the memories significant. In the final analysis that is what is most important. People and relationships are most important to our Heavenly Father too. This is why Jesus came to earth and gave His life. It was to save people so they could share as sons and daughters in His family and coming kingdom forever.

What am I going to miss the most? This is not hard to answer. I will miss the people of Liberty the most. I will miss the great staff team with whom I work. I will miss the people who faithfully serve the Lord and reach out to his community with me. I will miss the people who accept me and who encourage me. I will miss being a member of this special family.

So, where do I go in these meanderings? I guess that I will just close by saying that the best is yet to come. There are still chapters for us to write. We are still on the same team and we will stay in touch. In fact, the first church I will visit and at which I will speak as the district superintendent will be Liberty on June 8th.

Thanks for all the great memories.

FLIPSIDE

Pastor Shane Kroger



Hello, you all! I hope that this newsletter finds you doing well. My heart has been heavy burdened for you all with all of our upcoming changes. I have been praying that God would do a great work in all of us. Did you know that God is big?! He is so big, that all of our problems pale in comparison. He is so big, that He has no problem forgiving our sins. He is so big, that death and the devil can't hold Him. That is our God! We all need a little reminder once and awhile. Say something nice to those around you today and encourage each other to do what is acceptable to the Lord.

A huge thanks to all of the people who helped out with the Spaghetti Dinner and Auction Fundraiser. We had a set up crew of youth, we had special cooks, we had a wrecking crew break down the church after the event, we had bidders, and we had consumers of spaghetti. We raised over \$1,200.00 for the day. You are such a good church!

We had a chance to help out with the Mercy Garage Sale. We took some time away from our regular Flipside night to help set up tables at the Raymond Center. We had a great crew get 'er done in a little over a half hour. Great teamwork Flipside!

The Core Training with Youth Specialties went well in Fargo. Joel and I drove down one early Sunday morning with a little over 5 hours of sleep between the two of us. It was a great time of training and fellowship. Joel had me in stitches all weekend.

I continue to try and meet with the young people from our church. I have been able to get us involved with a Monday Night Halo League of sorts. We play in competition with some of my high school friends back in Minnesota via the internet. As well as this time, I have been making other personal visits as well. We do have a number of the younger adults and couples in our Sunday Night Small Group as well.

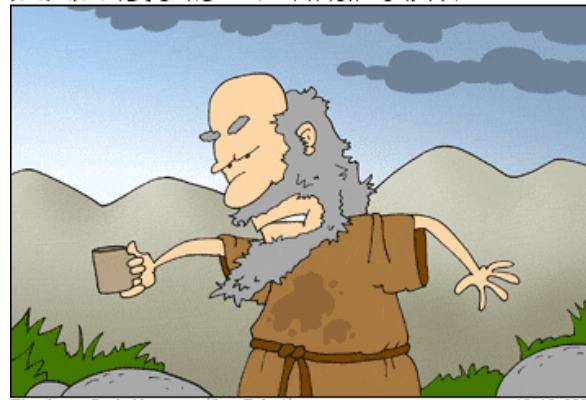
I do want to give you all an update as to my medical emergency a few weeks back. I have been following up with my Dr. here in town and have not come to any clear conclusions as of yet. It does look like stress and maybe some migraines as well. Please continue to keep me in prayer. I will update you all as I get information.

We are continuing to finish up with our lessons on other religions at Flipside. We will be moving onto a new set of topics soon. I have introduced a new game to Flipside. We are playing a game called American Gladiators. It is a fun, fast paced game involving garbage cans and kick balls. It is a very physical and strategy type of game. Speaking of game, we will be going over to Trinity soon to play Dodgeball.

Upcoming Events

May 17 th	Prince Caspian Day-
June 28 th -July 4 th	Nationals
July 15 th -20 th	Sonshine Music
	Festival
July 25 th -27 th	Camping Canoe Trip
Aug. 2 nd	Mud Football
Sept. 13 th	Garage Sale
	Fundraiser
Oct. 10 th -11 th	Cooperstown
	Autummmatics
Nov. ??	Vikings Weekend-
Dec.??	Christmas Party-
Dec.??	Christmas Caroling

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Thanks to Park Hunter (See Job 1) 10-10-2006
"FIRST A BAD-BEARD DAY AND NOW THIS",
THOUGHT JOB ... "COULD THIS DAY GET ANY
WORSE?"

May and June CM News

The end of the year is upon us and we are busting out at the seams at Children's Ministries. It is so great to have a full house.

There will be CM on May 4th, 11th and 19th.

(We will be singing on the 11th for Mother's Day.)

Our schedule for the summer will be June 8th, July 20th, and August 10th.

(We will be doing special activities on our summer days. Don't miss out!!!)

I will again this summer be looking at our program and making any necessary changes. If you have any thoughts about that, please get a hold of me.

I value all of your suggestions and comments.

Don't forget to be a blessing to others by attending church.

Miss Judy



All are invite to the Mission Team Activity
Planning Night

Tuesday, May 6th, 6:30 p.m.

Praise the Lord!!! Airline tickets have been purchased for the Mexico Missions Team. They are now focused on getting activities ready for the children.

Please pray for safely, health, encouragement and energy. Pray for our team members: John & Bert Herr, Tia Wallin, Jonni Muller & Kelsey Muller.