August 11, 2011
Sligo e-weekend Newsletter
A Condition of the Heart

Dear Lexie,

As I shared with you in the last edition of the eWeekend, due to an episode that took place during a recent staff meeting, I had to be admitted into the ICU of Washington Adventist Hospital. After several tests were conducted to see if the reason for my symptoms could be ascertained, it was finally concluded that a recording device be installed in my chest near the heart to see if any information could be captured that would aid in getting to the bottom of the situation. The device is the size and shape of a USB drive and as the doctor emphasized, was for diagnostic purposes only. In other words, it would have no medicinal impact on my condition at all. Its purpose would be to simply record the rhythms of my heart in the hopes that it would capture something that was out of the ordinary.

...(read more below)

A Condition of the Heart...
In Psalm 119:11 the psalmist talks about a device that he implanted in his heart, not as a diagnostic tool as the one that was placed in my chest, but one that would act as an agent to transform his very being. In Psalm 119:11, he says "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

The psalmist understood that man's problem is a condition of the heart. When David finally came to this realization he cried out to God to give him a heart transplant (Psalm 51:10). In scripture, the heart is simply used
as a metaphor to describe the condition of our minds. So when the psalmist says that he has placed God's word in his heart, in essence he is saying that he has placed it in the recesses of his mind because he recognizes that true transformation is a transformation of one's mind. The apostle Paul recognized this as well when he said that in order for us to resist being conformists to this world, and what it has to offer, that our only protection would be to have experienced a transformation of having our minds renewed by the word of God. (Romans 12:2)

But as powerful as God's word is to transform our lives, God has left the implantation up to us. No, it can't be surgically installed as the device that was placed in my chest, but each of us has to make the time to daily implant His word in our hearts (minds). My prayer for us today is that we will perform this non-surgical procedure on a regular basis so that we can experience the true transformation that God so desperately desires for each of children. Amen!

Pastor Charles A. Tapp
Senior Pastor

Project Top Grade
At the Church Business Meeting on Tuesday, May 3, Sligo Church voted for Sligo Adventist School (SAS) and Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church to partner with the Commonweal Foundation and the Potomac Conference in donating funds to update Sligo School's physical facilities and improve the overall educational experience. As a result of the generous gifts of over a million dollars from Commonweal Foundation and the Potomac Conference, funds will be made available for a new HVAC, fire alarm system, fire doors, new windows and other needed repairs, plus provide professional development for teachers and special tutoring for students. Our part is to provide scholarships for needy students. SAS and Sligo Church will be expected to raise $350,000 to be placed in a special scholarship fund for students who otherwise would not be able to afford a Christian education.

We invite you to be a part of this investment in our children by placing your funds in the Giving Envelope, and marking it Project "TOP GRADE," which stands for Project Takoma Park: Guaranteeing Revitalized Adventist Education. For more information about this project, please call Principal Larry Rich at (240) 464-7054. Or give online here.
We hope you found this week's e-weekend newsletter helpful. If there is anything else you would like to see included, we appreciate your feedback. Just email us to sligo@sligochurch.org. We will continue to send this out on a weekly basis. Remember, you may choose to unsubscribe for any reason at any time, though, we hope you won't!

May God continue to richly bless you!