Dear Lexie,

Church Participation

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now,' he wrote, 'and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

Read more

Upcoming Events

Future events include:

- Prayer Gathering (every Wednesday night @ 7PM)
This Sabbath:
June 20, 2015

Speaker:
Pastor Willie E. Hucks II
The Incredible Praise and the Incarcerated Prophet

Special Musical Guest:
SOLlDEOH

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Creative Summer Learning Initiative

As we move into the third summer of our Sligo Prayer Initiative, where our members have committed to pray for twenty schools in our area, there is concern for many young students. Frequently, during the months out of school, there is food insecurity for children who depend on the hot meals received during the school year. But this summer there is a program designed to help alleviate this problem.

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Missed Last Week's Sermon?

Watch Live or OnDemand:
Sligo WebTV

Sermon Audio Archive:
Audio Archive
Church Participation

Stephanie Roberts

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, 'and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the ‘Letters to the Editor’ column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

'I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this… They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!'

When I was growing up in New York City and later in the Northern part of New York State where every winter it gets very cold, it was common to have a fire place kept burning during those very cold days and nights. Speaking of cold, I took a glass of water up to my room one winter evening, set it in the window sill and fell asleep. I woke up to find the remaining water having frozen solid during the night. That's cold inside the house.

My father and I would go to a neighbor’s farmland woods, with his permission, and cut down a couple cords of firewood each Fall to allow it to dry for the next Winter to be used for our fireplace. My job then was to cut those four foot logs into fireplace and wood burning stove lengths and carry bushels of firewood into the house as needed.

While the fireplace wood was burning, it was necessary from time to time to stoke the burning wood with a metal poker to keep the firewood burning as a whole, so as to maximize the heat coming from the burning wood pieces. On occasion, when I was not attending to the fire in the fireplace because of being occupied with other tasks, a piece of firewood might fall off to one side and it would slowly begin to lose its fire value because it was separated from the main body of the burning wood. Only when that dying piece of firewood was brought back into the center glow of the main fire, did it again begin to generate the heat it was intended to provide.

What's the point? In today's electronic world it is possible to participate from a distance, but is that really participating? Of course not, no more so than that dying piece of firewood "alongside" the main body of the fire that was no longer providing heat because it wasn’t part of the actual body of the fire.

Whenever possible, be in the center of the fire where you can be a partner and a participator, because you are part of that warming fire, sending out heat to a world that's going cold.

Erwin H. Mack
As we move into the third summer of our Sligo Prayer Initiative, where our members have committed to pray for twenty schools in our area, there is concern for many young students. Frequently, during the months out of school, there is food insecurity for children who depend on the hot meals received during the school year. But this summer there is a program designed to help alleviate this problem.

Sligo member, Ken Flemmer, who is also director for the Adventist Community Services (ACS) on Sligo Avenue in Silver Spring, is leading the Camp Lunch and Learn program to provide some structure to what could otherwise be a haphazard few weeks out of school.

Beginning on Monday, June 29, approximately 80 elementary and middle schoolers will be using the facilities of two schools on our list of twenty. J.N. Andrews will be the host school, and Piney Branch Elementary will be the site where swimming instruction will take place over a period of 6 weeks.

A collaboration between ACS, City of Takoma Park, Montgomery County and the schools mentioned above, has led to the development of this program which can provide positive and valuable summer experiences. Three hours each week will focus on math instruction, and two hours per week will offer swimming instruction. Reading activities will engage students and there will be some serious time spent developing computer skills. In addition, there will be breakfast, a snack and hot lunch.

Your contributions are solicited for the success of this venture. They may take the form of prayers or monetary gifts, which are tax-deductible, or both. For more information, see Ken Flemmer or call ACS at 301.585.6556.