

The Sidney United Methodist Church

News-n-Views

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June



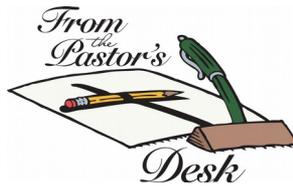
Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
9:30am-12:30pm

Pastor's Office Hours:
Tuesday and Thursday
10:00a.m.-12:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Sunday morning
Worship time:
10:15 a.m.



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Are We Still “Method” ists?

We got the name “Methodist” from the “Holy Club” that John and Charles Wesley organized (along with others) during their time at Oxford College. Members of this club were so methodical in their pursuit of holiness that others mocked them by calling them “Bible worms” (like “book worms”) and “Methodists.” Well, the club members kinda’ liked the name “Methodist,” and took it as their own. This use of methods continued as the Methodist movement and the Methodist Church grew in the American colonies and then in the independent nation that we call home. Well into the 19th century, Methodist classes were an essential part of the spiritual life for every Methodist.

We have gotten out of the habit of making habits. But maybe it is worth reviving this one. There is a very simple method that is called “The Examen.” It is a method of prayer, devotion, review of our spiritual life, and means of becoming more of what God calls us to be. Try this as a way of adding meaning to each day:

At the end of your day, begin with a simple prayer asking for an increased awareness of God’s loving presence with you. Then ask these simple questions of yourself:

Was I happy today? If not, why not?

Did I contribute to anyone’s happiness today? If not, why not?

Did I contribute to anyone’s unhappiness today? If so, why?

What I am really asking, Lord, is this:

Was I really aware that you love me, or was I only concerned with what was happening to me? Am I living in your grace?.... Lord, you know, much better than I....

These simple, yet challenging questions dovetail into the following ones:

How did I nourish my relationship with the Lord today?

What efforts have I made today to better know God’s will through Christ?

In what ways today did I encourage others to be followers of Christ?

After each of these questions, take time to listen as God speaks to you through memories of the experiences of your day. Then, close your “Examination of My Day” with a simple prayer of thanks and a request for continued guidance, so that when you awaken the next morning, you will be prepared to step in faith into a new day.

(With thanks to colleagues for the discussions)....

Lay Leader's Letter

JUNE

Joyous blessings from our Heavenly Father

Unconditional love comes from the Father who gave us loving father's

Never forget to remember your father

Everlasting love comes from the father

Our Father, we pray specifically for fathers and fatherhood across our land. Your Word clearly instructs fathers to bring up their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord ([Ephesians 6:4](#)). Father, we thank You for the men who are leading according to Your statutes and the ones that are laying their lives down for Your purposes. We pray that You will continue to use these men to lead their families and other men. We pray You will strengthen the fathers of our nation and that You will continue to empower churches, organizations, and individuals to invest in fathers and fatherhood for the sake of our children. Father, we pray for the single fathers out there; whether they are raising their children alone or even if they are doing the best they can with the time they have. We pray for strength, protection, wisdom, and discernment to help them through whatever trials they may be facing. Thank You Lord for these men and please guard their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, help meet all of their needs, that they may experience Your peace that surpasses all comprehension. In Jesus' name we pray AMEN AMEN

Lay Leader, Echo Adams



This year at VBS we will be encouraging our kids to help with a mission project called The Shoe That Grows. Our goal is to raise \$500 to send to the The Shoe That Grows organization to provide shoes to children around the world who either have none or have shoes too small for their feet. According to the founding organization, Because International: "1.5 billion people suffer from soil transmitted diseases worldwide. Without shoes, children are especially vulnerable to soil-transmitted diseases and parasites that can cause illness and even death. Children who get sick miss school, can't help their families, and suffer needlessly. And since children's feet grow so quickly, they often outgrow donated shoes within a year, leaving them once again exposed to illness and disease." The VBS team will be collecting loose change beginning Sunday, June 3. A container will be placed in the back of the sanctuary for donations. If you would like to contribute more than change we have a webpage setup to take donations.

Just visit <https://fundraise.becauseinternational.org/sidneyumcvbs>

For more information about The Shoe That Grows you can visit their website at

<https://theshoethatgrows.org>.

A flash of perspective

If summer storms make you or a loved one nervous, the perspective one mom offered her young son might help.

Though lightning can be harmful, God created it for good: The powerful electricity converts unusable nitrogen to nitrate, which plants need for growth and human bodies use to produce proteins.

The boy was still uncertain, so Mom continued. "Did you know there's lightning in heaven?" (See the description of John's vision in Revelation 4:5.)

"And nothing in heaven can hurt," said the boy, catching on.

Mom added, "Plus, lightning reminds me that Jesus is coming. Matthew (24:27, NIV) says, 'As lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.'"

This summer, as lightning brightens the sky, reassure yourself — or a child — of lightning's purpose and wonder.

—Based on "I'm Afraid of Thunder and Lightning," Family Time Story Devotions



My compliments to the Creator

Dear God,

I saw the Grand Canyon this summer. Nice piece of work!

Love,
Kyle (age 9)



Dad's are a Blessing

Surprise your Dad or another special man with this Father's Day gift

What you need:

Photos of you and your loved one (together if possible)
Scissors
8.5x11 Paper
Glue stick
Marker
8.5x11 photo frame

What you do:

- 1: Cut photos into shapes (hearts, circles, etc)
- 2: Arrange photos on the paper, leaving room for a message, and glue them down
- 3: Write "I'm blessed as can be. My Heavenly Father has given me the best _____ (dad, uncle, friend) in the world, and he belongs to me!"
- 4: Place your picture message in the frame
- 5: Give your gift to show love and appreciation



June 2018 Dates to Remember

- Flag Day, June 14, 2018
- Father's Day, June 17, 2018
- First day of summer, June 21, 2018



"Dad, we're in charge of props for the 'Noah's Ark' Sunday School play. We need 200 pairs of animals by next Sunday."



Beloved children

God our heavenly Father loves us so much that he calls us his.

Directions: Follow the instructions below. Then read the remaining words, going across the rows from left to right, to complete 2 Corinthians 6:18, NIV.

- Cross out the opposite of blessings.
- Cross out the opposite of found.
- Cross out the disciple who betrayed Jesus.
- Cross out a word for disobeying God.
- Cross out the opposite of love.
- Cross out an animal.
- Cross out a word for jail.
- Cross out a place.
- Cross out what happened to Jesus.
- Cross out a book of the Bible.
- Cross out the opposite of friends.

I	enemies	will	be	Judas
hate	a	Father	to	serpent
you	and	you	will	crucified
cursings	be	my	sons	and
sin	Golgotha	daughters	says	the
Lamentations	prison	Lord	Almighty	lost

Answer: "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:18, NIV



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