



Pastor's Perspective – Why We Don't Bear Witness as We Should

By Dr. Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

We all talk about the things we love.

Have you ever been around a sports fanatic? What does he talk about? "Did you see that game last night!"

Have you ever been around a young man or woman who has just fallen in love? What do they talk about?

According to Luke 2:38, Anna couldn't keep it to herself.

As soon as Anna came up to Mary, Joseph and the Christ-child in the temple, Anna began giving thanks to God and then continued speaking of Christ to all who were within the sound of her voice.

If you are excited about your relationship with the living God who sent His Son to save you from your sins, people around you will know about it.

Some believers justify their not witnessing by saying: "I don't talk about it. I just live the message." But part of living the Christian life is talking about it!

Yes, you need to be tactful and sensitive.

Yes, you need to wait on the Lord for the right opportunity.

But all too often we don't err on the side of being too bold or insensitive.

By the way, from Luke's recounting of the incident with

Anna in the temple, it is reasonable to conclude that the reason she was telling everyone about the Savior is that she had spent much time privately cultivating her relationship with the Lord. In verse 37, we're told *she worshipped night and day, fasting and praying*; in verse 38, that she couldn't stop talking about Jesus.

Perhaps the reason we don't bear witness as we should, is we haven't spent enough time in worship and have lost what should be our first love.

Perhaps we haven't spent enough time in worship.

Working in a Winter Wonderland

By Randy Malota and Sherry Wasserstein

Ecclesiastes 4:9 "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor."

Thank you so much to all the families who came out to help clear the snow from the church to make it safe for services to resume! The turnout was really encouraging, especially after everyone was already tired and sore from clearing their own homes. It was a big job, but was manageable with so many volunteers. The work went quickly and everyone was in a good spirit about it, despite their sore arms and backs!

Whether it's clearing snow, cutting grass, cleaning the church or participating in a church work day, every church member's help is needed and appreciated. From emergency jobs to routine tasks, from large jobs to small, many hands make light work. And it's important to remember that we're not only helping our church and each other, but we're doing it for the glory of God.

Another area of service that works best with lots of volunteers is in the regular, weekly cleaning of the church building. Russell Mahoney, the cleaning schedule coordinator, says many hands makes this responsibility easier, too.

"We need help in that area," he said. "There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board near Pastor Odom's office and people can just sign up anytime. If people are unsure how to perform the cleaning I would be happy to show them."

Russell also stated that while any amount of volunteered time would be appreciated, generally people pick a month or four weeks out of the year. He said that everyone could sign up, with individuals perhaps combining with others so that the work would not be as much of a burden.



Heart Friends

Have you ever wished there was one person you absolutely knew was praying faithfully for you?



"Heart Friends" is our women's secret prayer partner ministry, and this Friday, at 7:00 PM, in Fellowship Hall, those who participated in 2015 will find out who was secretly praying for them.

"The goal of our Heart Friend/Secret Sister ministry is to have one lady to specifically pray for throughout the year, to get to know her, to remember her with a small gift/card on her birthday or anniversary," said Marian Goff, one of the Women's Ministries officers.

"It's a way to share in someone's life who may not feel comfortable sharing a specific request, but knowing that someone is praying for them," she said. "It is a real comfort when we reveal who our Heart Friend is at the party. I have been blessed to find out that person had been burdened to pray for me when I most needed it, without even knowing what the specific need was at the time."

New assignments will be drawn for 2016. If you were part of this ministry in 2015, please bring a small gift for your 2015 Heart Friend whose identity will be revealed at the party. If you did not participate in Heart Friends last year, but would like to in 2016, please see Marian Goff for a Heart Friend information form to complete and either drop in the box in the foyer or bring with you to the party. All ladies are welcome.

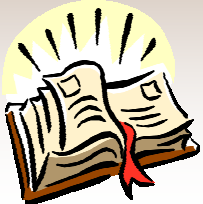
Money Matters

The snow-cancelled Sunday affected our budget receipts in a big way. We need to recoup that lost income to get back on track.

January Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$3,771
Weekly Need	\$5,052
Year-to-Date General Fund Giving	\$18,856
Year-to-Date General Fund Need	\$25,260

February Memory Verse

*Teach me your way, O LORD and I
will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided
heart, that I may fear
your name.
~ Psalm 86:11*



Ministry Trip to the Philippines

Pastor & Neita Lindholm will be ministering at the Word of Life Bible Institute in the Philippines, leaving home February 12, arriving home again February 27. Pastor will be teaching 2 Corinthians and Hermeneutics. Neita will be leading evening devotions for the female students and speaking to the ladies fellowship. They will also be involved in both chapel and local church ministries. Pray for their preparation, travel and ministry.



International Students

Once again, we will have the opportunity to reach people on the other side of the world for Christ. But we won't have to travel to China, or India, or Eastern Europe in the hopes of sharing the gospel with someone who has never heard The Word before.

By the grace of God, and the ministry of Salt and Light Fellowship at Purdue University, students from all over the world will beat a path to our own doorsteps.

We need families to host 24 guests, arriving Saturday, March 12, and staying until Thursday, March 17. The requirements to host the guests are minimal: provide a warm and welcoming place to stay, fix breakfast in the morning before they tour DC, and lead a prepared Bible study one evening after a meal. Be prepared to have your hearts blessed as you see God work! See Pastor Lindholm if you want to be a part of this annual event.

Missionary Ministry

Larry and Sallie Fogle will be with us on Sunday morning, February 14, to promote an October 2016 PEP (Pastoral Enrichment Program) Ministry Trip to to the north-central African country of Chad. Our desire is to assist with the financial underwriting of that trip with a special offering received in May.

February Calendar

Feb. 5	Women's Heart Friend Party 7:00 PM
Feb. 9	Nursing Home Ministry 2:00 PM
Feb. 12	Parents' Night Out 6:00 PM
Feb. 14	Fogle Visit
Mar. 4-5	Fellowship In Homes

Fellowship Baptist Church

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