

## Reflections On Sunday Night

adapted from Neal Pollard's *Daily Bread*

It's been an unofficial policy and unstated position throughout our dear brotherhood that worship on Sunday night is somehow optional or at least less formal. One dresses differently on Sunday morning. It feels different on Sunday morning. The auditorium certainly looks noticeably fuller on Sunday morning. Elders in most congregations made the decision that the saints should assemble Sunday morning *and* evening for worship. They are feeders of the flock (cf. Acts 20:28), and Sunday night is part of the feed schedule they have decided upon for the sheep. Inasmuch as sheep are to follow the direction and guidance of the shepherds (Heb. 13:7,17; 1 Pet. 5:1-5), they are given authority by Christ to set "the appointed times" which sheep should do their utmost to "make."

This, however, is not a strong-arm attempt or guilt-trip effort to get you to come on Sunday night services if you do not do so already. Close to twenty years' experience has taught me that such attempts and efforts are close to 100% futile! If people do not want to come on Sunday night, they will not come on Sunday night.

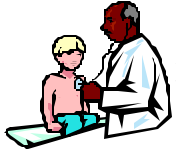
Yet, this past Sunday night's service has been on my mind several times since it occurred. I have thought about the young man (Sam Valentine) who read scripture. He may be a future elder and/or preacher, and we are seeing his first steps of leadership. It was inspiring! I have thought about the incredible song-leading to which we are treated every time Eric Earnhart (and others) is asked to lead. There is something about his saying those upbeat, appropriate, and tone-setting things, and being as talented as he is sincere so deeply impacts our collective ability as a church. People respond to that kind of enthusiasm and genuineness. Then, the lesson that Eddy preached using Jesus' words, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"; it was much needed and appreciated. I have thought about prayers offered by Tom Rogers and Josh Whitlow. Their personal petitions and thanksgiving before God seemed so genuine and sincere as they brought us before God's throne.

Yes, I had worshipped Sunday morning. It was edifying, encouraging, and beneficial. Yet, Sunday night's worship was maybe even a bigger boost to my faith, my growth, and my desire to serve Him.

Does being back on Sunday night require additional sacrifice, in terms of time and money? No doubt about it. Yet, the investment made does more than "pay you back." It yields a return to your soul that far outweighs what you put into it. The realist in me knows that I cannot change everybody's mind, but the greater part of me-the optimist-believes that some of you who are not now coming will come because you want everything the Lord has to offer and you want every opportunity to show your gratitude for what He has already offered! If you do not currently attend on Sunday nights, I hope you will do some reflecting, too. Be there for the awesome moments that happen, not only on Sunday mornings but also on Sunday nights!

Your Elders

**Sick** Dawn Nikkel, Ben's mother, has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma. Her address is: 3744 SW Herefordshire, Topeka, KS 66604



Continue to remember in prayer: **Marguerite Charles, Margaret Kratz, Betty Jenkins, Lynn & Mary Anderson, Crawford & Martha Keith, Martha Keplinger, JD Lawson, Buddy Martin, Collin Gregory, David McFalls, Arthur Munsey.**

Happy Birthday this week to:

Ed Argabright—6/15  
John Black—6/16  
Richard Simms—6/16  
Wayne Dixon—6/17  
Mitzi Pettit—6/17



Happy Anniversary this week to:

Walter & Betty Jenkins—6/18  
Josh & Lori whitlow—6/20



**JUNE ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:** Ink pens and Poppy seeds. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!

### MILITARY

Kyle Nester—in Iraq  
Erich Felps—in Iraq  
Chris Coleman—in Iraq



Jo Ann will be out of the office this week due to Virginia Christian Camp. Mickie will be filling in so send all messages to her!!

office@westsidecoc-salem.com

# VBS

**Water World at West Side**

June 28—9:30 AM

We are still in need of a few more monitors and helpers with costumes and small props.

**Registration forms and flyers are located in the foyer!! Pick one up today and return to the office by 6/18.**

**Drinks needed:** Please help out by donating canned drinks and juice boxes. Please place in kitchen!

### **Attention all actors:**

Check this section for practice schedules!!

The Wedding Feast (Bush) - will have practice on Wednesday evening, June 25

Noah's Ark (Rogers)/ Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (House) will have practice on Sunday evening, June 22 and Wednesday evening, June 25.

Paul's Shipwreck (Simms) will have practice on Sunday evening, June 22 and Wednesday evening, June 25.

Dress Rehearsal will be Thursday, June 26 at 7:00.  
**ALL PERSONS MUST BE THERE!!**

### VIRGINIA CHRISTIAN CAMP

Camp starts today!!! Westside is sending at least 24 campers and numerous members are going up as staff. Keep the camp in your prayers this week for us all!!



Thanks to all of you who have donated items—it is greatly appreciated!!

# F Y I

## For Your Information

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To all the dads out there—we love you!!

**Attention adults:** You are invited to the "Lessons from Camp" class on Sunday. The lesson will be "Christian Dating". There will be a new lesson each week.

Team 2 (Garby) will be having a trash pick-up on Saturday, June 21 at 7:00 AM. Meet at the Dixie Caverns exit.



### IN-HOUSE SUMMER SERIES

Be here this Wednesday to hear Charlie Gwaltney & Jeremy White!

Here's a list of other speakers for this summer: Squeaky Valentine, Jerry Anderson, Richards Simms, Luke Guard, Wayne Dixon, Fred Altizer, Steve Hall, Jim Cooke, Tom Richardson, Eric Earnhart, Don Pettit, Jeff Durham and Mark Brooks.

Make your plans now to be here to encourage these men!

### Teens



June dates

June 15–21—VCC

June 23—Summer Youth Devo—7-8:30 PM

June 28—VBS

June 29—Young Men conduct services

#### Summer Youth Devos

June 23—West Side

July 7—Christiansburg

July 21—Dale Ridge

August 4—Radford

August 9—Lake Drive (12–2)

*All devos are at 7–8:30 unless noted otherwise.*

### STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The student accomplishment forms are located in the foyer. Please make sure you get one for each child and return to the office by June 15.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS registrations and flyers are located in the foyer. Pick up and return to office by June 18!!

### WEST SIDE CALENDARS

The July and August calendars will be coming in your bulletin soon. I need **all** scheduled activities in the office by June 25.

## WOW

The WOW GROUP will meet on TUESDAY, July 8 at 10:30 AM.

Please sign up on the WOW board for the video Autobiographies being done by Richard Simms.

June 2008

## A Nail in His Head

**Announcements** Fred Altizer  
**Song Leader (AM)** Charlie Gwaltney  
**Opening Prayer (AM)**  
6/1 Charles Maness  
6/8 Wayne Dixon  
6/15 Jeff Durham  
6/22 Tom Richardson  
6/29 Richard Simms  
**Preside at Communion** David Brown  
**Serve Table** Jeff Reed Adam House  
Glenn Gabbard Mike Durham

**Closing Prayer**  
6/1 Eric Earnhart  
6/8 Jim Cooke  
6/15 Crawford Keith  
6/22 Bobby Martin  
6/29 Jim Bush

**Song Leader (PM)** Eric Earnhart  
**Opening Prayer (PM)**  
6/1 Squeaky Valentine  
6/8 Josh Whitlow  
6/15 Don Pettit  
6/22 Roger Mays  
6/29 Jim Harrington  
**Scripture Reader** Sam Valentine

**Closing Prayer (PM)**  
6/1 Jerry Anderson  
6/8 Tom Rogers  
6/15 Gene Benefield  
6/22 Greg Edwards  
6/29 Youth  
**Serve Table (PM)**  
Caleb Guard Luke Guard

**Song Leader (Wed)** David Brown  
**Prayer (Wed)**  
6/4 Adam House  
6/11 Caleb Guard  
6/18 Bob Garby  
6/25 John Black

**Open/Close Bldg** Bob Garby  
**Greeters** J. & R. Durham Garby  
**Nursery Attend** Hazel Maness Linda Maness  
**Ushers** Curtis Oakes Danny Guard  
**Handouts** Ryan Simms Sam Valentine  
John Black Herb Baker

**Alternates**  
**Prepare communion**  
Jackie Dixon Audrey Gabbard  
**Cards & Pencils**  
Sydney Durham Olivia Valentine

**Last weeks attendance 6/8& 11/08**  
Bible Class—163 Worship Service—197  
Sunday Eve.—146 Wednesday Eve.—176  
Contribution—\$5567

Number 2924  
June 15, 2008

Mr. Royce Chandler of Shawnee, Kansas, is back at work on his home improvement project just a couple of days after having a 2 ½" nail lodged in his head. He and a friend were working at his house when the cord of a nail gun got tangled, causing it to fire. The stray nail penetrated his skull. He felt only a minor sting and thought the nail had simply grazed his head. His assistant saw the nail was embedded and called an emergency crew. At the hospital, Mr. Chandler was perhaps even more surprised with the tool used to extract the nail than he was with the freak accident itself. The doctor asked for a claw hammer and pulled the nail out just as he would have if it had been in a piece of wood. Mr. Chandler is not expected to have any problems from his injury. This accident reminded me of another man who had a nail in his head. His ordeal, however, was no accident and didn't end quite as well.

Deborah was the fourth (and only woman) judge of Israel. She called for Barak to lead an army against Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army (Judges 4). Barak replied that he would only go if Deborah would go with him. She told him she would go, but that instead of Sisera being delivered to him, he would be delivered into the hands of a woman (vs. 9).

In the course of the ensuing battle, which went badly for the Canaanites, Sisera got down from his chariot and fled on foot. In his flight he ran to the tent of a woman named Jael. He thought he would have refuge there because there was a good relationship between Jael's husband (Heber) and Jabin, the king of Hazor. Jael invited Sisera to take shelter inside the tent. She covered him with a mantle. He requested some water to quench his thirst. She brought him some milk, and soon Sisera was fast asleep. Quietly, Jael "took a nail of the tent, and took an hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground: for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died." (Judges 4:21). When Barak came in pursuit of Sisera, Jael summoned him to come into her tent to find him. "And when he came into her tent, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the nail was in his temples" (Judges 4:22). The incident brought the battle to a successful conclusion, and Deborah's prophecy of Sisera's death at the hands of a woman was precisely fulfilled.

-Eddy