

August 30, 2007

WFMCC Weekly

Endings and Beginnings

"I prefer to think of prayer as a passion, as a way to take life on and respond to it as fully as possible...Prayer acknowledges fear and takes us beyond it. It is the most natural and available thing in the world. Prayer makes us holy."

-from *The Soul's Religion*, by
Thomas Moore



Dear Friends,

I have been reminded this week that in the cycle of life, endings and beginnings usually go hand in hand. Even as the summer of 2007 is drawing to its end, already the beginning of fall is around us. Slightly cooler temperatures (thank goodness) and the appearance of school buses around town will no doubt soon be accompanied by the graceful shower of leaves and crisp morning air. Last week we brought to an end our Summer Cinema Sermon Series, and this week we are beginning a whole new series of sermons, worship experiences, programs and events that will bring us full circle to the end of 2007, and the beginning of 2008.

There is no doubt about it - the cycle of life is constant and can certainly be demanding - sometimes joyous, sometimes painful, and almost always challenging. Prayer is one of the most natural and available gifts from God that we have to help us respond well to life's demands. Perhaps more than anything else, it can help us take on the challenges of life and be our best selves most fully in both the joyous and the trying times that life brings our way.

This Sunday we will begin a new sermon series for the fall called "Sermons By Request." These sermons will be based upon the suggestions submitted anonymously by WFMCC congregants over the past few months. The first sermon in the series this Sunday will be all about prayer: what is it? How and when should we pray? Why should we pray? What does it really mean? What difference can it make in our

lives? I am very grateful to everyone who submitted their ideas for sermons, and I am looking forward to exploring them all over the next few months together.

I am excited, too, by everything that we will be doing and sharing together as a community in the months to come. Discipleship training classes, fun fundraisers, and new ministries all lie ahead, along with sermons on everything from the Bible and Homosexuality to "Advent in the Everyday." Come and join us for a great new beginning at WFMCC this fall as we continue to celebrate *all* of who God created us to be.

Many blessings,

Lea

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We Need Mowers!



Because of the huge amount of rain we have had this year, we are having a difficult time keeping up with all the mowing that needs to be done at the church. The folks who have been doing

1. Are You Ready to Splash?

Back by popular demand, this year's "End of Summer Splash" will take place on Sunday afternoon, September 9th immediately following our 11 a.m. worship service. The event will again be held at the home of Becky and Brazda, located at 5216 Seymour Highway. Come and enjoy a great afternoon with fabulous musical acts, BBQ, swimming, something special for the kids, and more.



The cost to attend is \$1 per person, plus \$1 per BBQ plate (no one will be turned away for lack of funds). Please bring your favorite non-alcoholic beverages, a side dish to share, and your most comfy lawn chair.

This will be our final fundraiser for our new multi-media system which will be installed this fall.

2. Collection for Faith Mission

During the month of September we will be collecting supplies for the amazing ministries provided by our neighbors across the street, Faith Mission.

Faith Mission provides meals for anyone who is hungry, a safe place to sleep for those who are without a home, a residential 12-step program for those recovering from substance abuse, a day labor program, and bedding,

the mowing week after week could really use some help.

We have all the equipment you will need - we just need your time and energy for about two hours once a month. (It goes a lot faster if you have a team of two or more!)

If you would be willing to help with this important ministry, please contact Lea at (940) 322-4100 as soon as possible, or by email at lbrown@wichitafallsmcc.org.

Remember - our building and grounds are our calling card to our community! Please consider helping us to continue looking our best.

furniture and supplies for families in need. They help hundreds of people each year who are living in extreme poverty, and their theme is "From Hurt to Hope."

We can help Faith Mission provide that hope to so many who are hurting in Wichita Falls. Every Sunday in September we will have copies available of a list of supplies that Faith Mission needs. We will collect donations each Sunday throughout the month, and will deliver them to Faith Mission the first week of October. Let's work together to collect as much as we can to support our brothers and sisters in need.

3. Follow-Up Meeting From the Men's Retreat

All those who identify as male are invited to bring a brown-bag lunch and meet with our pastor Rev. Lea Brown on Sunday, September 16th immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service.

We will talk about the recent men's retreat, and make plans for future events. Whether or not you attended the retreat, you are welcome to participate in this meeting. Come and help us build up our men's community at WFMCC!

4. Next Membership Class

Are you interested in becoming a member of WFMCC, or would you like to know more about what membership means? If so, please plan on attending our next membership class, which will be held on Sunday, October 21st at 1 p.m. Please let Lea know as soon as possible if you would like to register for the class.

5. Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests

Prayer requests for travel mercies for Trish's parents...for healing for Adrian Michael...for Lauretta...for healing for Ron's father...for healing for Trish and her husband...for travel mercies for Pam and Deon...for healing for Linda.

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