



Southwest *Church of the Nazarene*

CHURCH NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 – VOLUME 27

THERAPY

I was trimming some limbs from our pine tree in the backyard this summer. I know – sounds like fun, right? Thankfully, I was able to borrow my brother's pole-saw. Literally, an extension pole, with a small chainsaw on the end weighing around 10 pounds. I had been working for a while and was getting tired when I cut through a decent sized limb. It started to come down toward me, so I used the pole to protect myself and shoved the limb away as it fell. However, the top-heavy pole-saw slipped off the branch and swung quickly toward the ground, pulling my shoulder with it. A sharp pain grabbed my attention, and I knew it was time to put the saw up.

Fast forward two months.

I went to the Doctor who smiled, gave me a less-than-pleasant cortisone shot in my shoulder, and signed me up for physical therapy. Though painful and tender, I was determined to get my ability back in that shoulder and agreed to PT. So many different stretches and positions, so much aching! At one time, the therapist said something like, "Sometimes you just have to work it out." Well, I did. I persevered, as many of you have also through PT, and thankfully my strength and range of motion is much better. My point: our spiritual lives also need worked out... or else we lose our strength and ability to serve the Lord.

The Apostle Paul said in Philippians 2:12-13, "Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. NIV

God is our spiritual therapist and He will allow things into your life to stretch your faith muscles. It isn't always easy, nor is it fun. Somedays you will feel He is right by your side – like a therapist is. Other days, you are home alone, to work on your faith by yourself. Just keep in mind the end goal – strong faith! So, don't give up, don't slack off, "continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling." Continue shaping your spiritual life with what you read, through prayer, through good choices, through godly friendships, through intentional witnessing and service to others. You may feel quite weak when you begin, but as you work at it day after day, month after month, and year after year, you will notice an amazing difference in your life. Your spiritual therapy has really worked! Just like I realized, "physical therapy really works."

Pastor Scott and Cindy

Praises:

- Praise the Lord for a good crowd for National Back to Church Sunday! It's always a blessing seeing new faces. We've been blessed with many new people lately; let's pray for them this week!
- Praise the Lord for Kathy, Preston, and Sheilleda for their interviews about what they love about church! It was encouraging and great to hear their testimonies!
- Praise the Lord for Daniel Greene and the praise team! He drove from Olivet Nazarene University just to play for our service. He did an excellent job! Every once in a while, be sure and thank those in the praise team and sound booth for helping us have great services each week. We are blessed with wonderful talent!
- Praise the Lord that we were contacted about an IPL Rebate Program where we can receive free LED bulbs throughout our building! This is a big savings on the purchasing, as well as the cost per usage side.

Prayer Needs:

- Pray for pouring out of the Holy Spirit through our upcoming revival with Rev. Billy Huddleston and Rev. Mark Murphy.
- Pray for the R!OT Youth Retreat in October. May it be a time for our teens to unplug, rest, refresh, and fellowship together!
- Pray for our Government and Country.
- Pray for all those physically affected by the virus or impacted financially (i.e. unemployment, companies laying off or closing, and the continued financial hardships).

God's Sunshine

Never once – since the world began,
Has the sun ever stopped shining;
His face very often we could not see,
And we grumbled at His inconstancy,
But the clouds were really to blame, not He,
For behind them he was shining.

And so – behind life's darkest clouds
God's love is always shining;
We veil it at times with our faithless fears,
And darken our sight with our foolish tears,
But in time the atmosphere always clears,
For His love is always shining.

- John Oxenham



We wanted to remind you about this great opportunity for teens to attend the REFRESH Weekend! It'll be a great time doing fun activities like axe throwing, ropes courses, connecting with friends and spending time learning about how important it is for us to rest and refresh in Christ. For more information about the event & necessary registration forms, please visit www.swnazarene.org and look for the banner scrolling across that looks similar to the image within this post! Hope you can join us!

Upcoming Events & Announcements



**Sunday, Sept. 27th –
Alabaster Offering:
Time to get those
boxes of change and
dollar bills ready to
bring to service this
day!**

Special Note: We are upgrading our aging alarm system and adding new features to our office entry. Both of these items will soon have remote access. The office entry doors will have a card key access, as well as the app to lock or unlock the doors. These are both helpful security and convenience measures the church board has decided to make. If you presently have a key to the church, please let Katrina know and we will be in touch with you when the new card reader is installed to distribute the new card key.

Fall Revival with Rev. Billy Huddleston, Evangelist & Rev. Mark Murphy, Song Evangelist

**Sunday, October 4th –
Wednesday, October 7th**

Please take to pray for this time of renewal in the Lord!



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COMING SOON TO A PLANET NEAR YOU

**Come Join Us at Wednesday
Prayer Meetings – 6:30pm
See you there!**

**Blake & Jenna Bolerjack
In Concert - Sunday,
November 22, 2020
at 10:40am**

