

The Beacon







The old saying, "sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me" just isn't a true statement. Any person who has been inflicted with hateful or mean words will tell you that they in fact do hurt. The words we choose to talk to and about others can have lasting effects. Many wounds have been created in individual lives as a result of by the words of another.

Christians are not immune to speaking in ways that hurt others. In fact, some of the most mean-spirited words are often found in the places where people we love the most are; family and church. In fact, there have probably been more damaging words spoken in families and in churches than anywhere else.

In Paul's letter to the Colossians he reminds his fellow Christians to consider how they speak to one another. Paul writes, "Let your speech always be gracious,

seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone." Gracious speech does not naturally come to us. Our tongues can easily be directed by sin and not grace. Learning to talk with grace is a work of the Holy Spirit.

So before we speak, we should always THINK about what we are saying and how we are saying. An easy guide is to use the THINK acronym:

before you speak:

T... Is it true?

H... Is it helpful?

I..... Is it inspiring?

N... Is it necessary?

K... Is it kind?

The apostle also wrote these words to the church at Thessalonica: "Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up." Indeed our words are too important to use frivolously. Rather, with salt in our speech, we as Christians seek to speak God's love and kindness to every person we meet.



Palm Sunday March 25 II:00 am

Maundy Thursday March 29 6:30 pm

> Good Friday March 30 6:30 pm

Easter Sunday Hollywood Cemetery Worship April 1 8:30 am

> Easter Worship April I II:00 am

General Fund Budget Update through February 18.

Budget Needed to Date: \$18,501 Given to date: \$16,360 Variance: -\$2,141

Youth Meetings

March 11 and March 25 after morning worship



Wednesday Night March 1 @ 7:00 pm

Traditional Irish Meal @ 6:00 pm Reservations required by Monday at noon

Worship in the Celtic tradition is rich with prayer, silence, scripture and music. It is contemplative in nature and reflects the beauty and traditions of this ancient Christian community.

March Birthdays

- 1: Paul Reed
- 4: Russell Holt
- 6: Evelyn Berry
- 14: Beverly Derr
- 16: Betty Thomas
- 17: Nancy Reed
- 20: Judy Hairfield
- 24: Dean Welton
- 25: Jeanette Townsend
- 28: Ellen Shaw
- 29: Virginia Knighton Barbara Reynolds

March Meetings

Deacon's Meeting March 12 @ 6:30 pm

WMU Meeting March 19 @ 11:00 am

"May your troubles be less and your blessings be more and nothing but happiness come through your door."