



# The Good Tidings

Arena Congregational Church

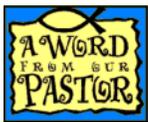
August 2017

CELEBRATING OUR PAST-EMBRACING OUR FUTURE

Affiliated with the Wisconsin Congregational Association

## Thoughts from here and there...What are you shopping for?

In an issue of the "Hope Health Letter" from the American Health Resources Association there was a quotation about time from William Rehnquist the former Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.<sup>1</sup>



"Another way to look at life is to see it as a different kind of department store.

A store where such things as worldly success, love of music, enjoyment of painting, a six-handicap golf game, a close relationship with your son or daughter, and many other similar things are for sale.

But the commodity with which they are purchased is not money but time.

And quite contrary to the way the capitalist system works with money and goods, every one of us is given exactly the same amount of time in each hour, in each day and in each year.

It is a limited amount, and it is impossible for anyone to be so rich in time that he can enjoy every single one of the things which time may buy.

So there is a choice to be made..."

William Rehnquist remarks about time have another application. For in this department store is a section that is devoted to God and the things of God. The question is then raised, "How much time to you designate for God?" Does this include offering thanks for the food you eat which might be simply, "God is great, God is good, and we thank him for our food." Does time for God include morning and evening prayers, that thank God for his presence through the day and seek his help in understanding the complexities of life, and perhaps seeking forgiveness for ones sins? Does time for God include time for Sunday morning worship along with those who are also seeking God?

Time quickly passes and soon the minute are gone. You have a glorious department store with a huge variety of temptations, but don't avoid the part of the store that has all the good things of God.

<sup>1</sup> William Rehnquist, Chief Justice, U.S. Supreme Court (Quoted in Hope Health Letter (American Health Resources Association, vol. 20 no. 7, July 2000), p 1

### SERMON



### SCHEDULE

## Sermons for August

August 6, Friendship Day: Lesson: Romans 9:1-8, Sermon Title: Divine Genealogy

At Ancestry.com you can spend the money and get an analysis of your DNA to discover your ethnic ancestry. Romans nine provides us with an understanding of genealogy that will fill you with great joy.

August 13: Lesson: Romans 10:1-15, Sermon Title: Out of the Ashes

In the historical record, the phoenix "could symbolize renewal. . . ." We do not need Greek mythology, we have a savior that will renew and restore us.

August 20, Guest Speaker, Ms. Cindy Reesen: Lesson: To Be Announced, Sermon Title: To Be Announced

August 27, Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic: Celebrating Our Earth: Lessons: Genesis 1:31-2:1; Revelation 21.1-5, Sermon Title: From Good to Bad to Good

What was new and perfect became old and corrupt; therefore God will create a new heavens and a new earth in which the old and corrupt become new and everlasting.



Mark Your Calendar!

## Special Days in the Secular and Church Calendar

August 6, (S), Friendship Day

August 27, (S), Outdoor worship and church picnic at Arena Village Park

September 3, Labor Day Sunday

## Promise and A Prayer

### A Promise

"For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our

(Continued on [page 2](#))



transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him," (Psalms 103.11-13, NRSV).

### A Thought

The Psalmist proclaims the extraordinary nature of God's love. The writer uses the word "fear," that does not mean to be afraid, but to reverence, honor, or respect. This is made very clear in 1 John 4:18, NRSV: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love." The writer of this Epistle also states expressly that, "We love because he (that is God) first loved us."

### A Prayer

Dear God, there are times when I am afraid of you. Is this because I do not love you as you love me? Please help me to understand how I can learn to obtain and live in your love. Amen.



### Spotlight on the family

"If I could do it again<sup>1</sup>

If I had my child I to raise all over again...

I'd finger paint more and finger point less.

I'd do less correcting and more connecting.

I'd take my eyes off my watch and watch with my eyes.

I would care to know less and know to care more.

I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.

I'd stop playing serious and seriously play.

I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars.

<sup>1</sup> Diane Loomans (Quoted in Hope Health Letter (American Health Resources Association, vol. 20 no. 7, July 2000), p 5

**THE GOOD TIDINGS** is a monthly publication of the Arena Congregational Church, 383 Oak St., PO Box 125, Arena, WI 53503-0125.

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Contributors: Members, Friends and Officers of the Arena Congregational Church. Ideas and comments about this publication should be addressed to the editor and sent to his home address.

I'd do more hugging and less tugging."

## Officers for 2017 - 2018

### Governing Board

President: Jim Favreau, 753.2334

Vice-president: Joanne Brown, 753-2316

Treasurer: Steven Wilkinson, 753.2131

Clerk: Joe Hodgson, 753-2520

Financial Secretary: Ray Johnson, 753-2845

Church Secretary: Steve Wilkinson, 753.2131

### Officers

Sunday School Superintendent, Karen Wilkinson, 753-2131

Choir Director, Leslie Shultz, 574-0707

Head Usher Jim Favreau, 753.2334 and Ray Johnson, 753.2845



### Meetings

Governing Board: Second Monday, August 14, 6:30 p.m.

Men's Breakfast: Third Saturday, 7:30 a.m., at Grandma Mary's. Our next breakfast will be in either September or October. Enjoy your Saturday morning breakfast either the one provided for you, or the one you provide for yourself.



### Greeters

August -6 - Joe and Carol Hodgson

August -13 - Judi Salava

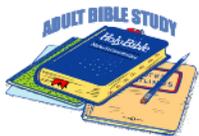
August -20 - Steve and Karen Wilkinson



from *The Joyful Noiseletter*  
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August -27 - Judith Rouse

September -3 - Jeff and Joanne Brown Family



### Adult Study Group

Our Adult Study groups are taking a hiatus for the summer. We will resume our meetings in September.



### Worship On Compact Disks

The Worship Services are recorded each week on a CD so that you may share in the fellowship and enjoyment of worship. If you would like to listen to a service to share the music, pray the prayers and learn from the sermon call either Steve Wilkinson, 753-2131 or Pastor Shultz, 574-0707 and a CD will be delivered to you. Let us know if you need a CD player.



### Missions

We are supporting the Congregational Mission of Jardin America with a gift of \$40 a month through the missions program of the National Association of Congregational Christians. We also contribute \$50.00 a month to the Arena Food Pantry, and \$25.00 a month to the Food Pantry at the Spring Green Community Church. Thank you for your support of our local and foreign mission projects.



### Something to Think About

"Do not think that you can show your love for Christ by hating those who seem to be His enemies on earth. Suppose they really do hate Him:

nevertheless He loves them, and you cannot be united with Him unless you love them too."

~Thomas Merton, New Seeds of Contemplation



### Humor

Singing in the shower is all fun and games until you get shampoo in your mouth. Then it just becomes a soap opera!

Pastor Tim <posts@cybersaltlists.org>



A lady on her first visit to Yellowstone National Park said to her guide, "Look at all those big rocks. Wherever did they come from?"

"The glaciers brought them down," said the guide.

"But where are the glaciers?" The lady asked.

"The glaciers," said the guide in a weary voice, "have gone back for more rocks."

Pastor Tim <posts@cybersaltlists.org>



After booking my 80-year-old grandmother on a flight from Florida to Nevada, I called the airline to go over her special needs. The representative listened patiently as I requested a wheelchair and an attendant for my mother because of her arthritis and impaired vision to the point of near blindness.

My apprehension lightened a bit when the woman assured me that everything would be taken care of. I thanked her profusely.

"Oh, you're welcome," she replied.

### Recipe of the Month

#### Crisp Apple - Rice Salad

from the recipe files of Helga Shultz

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 2 cups cooked brown and/or wild rice, chilled | 1 tablespoon olive oil                  |
| 2 cups chopped apple (about 2 medium)         | 2 teaspoon honey                        |
| 1 cup thinly sliced celery                    | 2 teaspoon brown or Dijon-style mustard |
| 1/4 cup shelled sunflower seeds               | 2 teaspoon grated orange peel           |
| 1/4 cup currants                              | 1 clove garlic, minced                  |
| 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar                | 1/4 teaspoon salt                       |



In a large mixing bowl combine chilled rice, apple, celery, sunflower seeds and currants. In small bowl stir together vinegar, oil, honey, mustard, orange peel, garlic and salt. Drizzle over rice mixture, tossing gently to coat. Serve immediately with curly leaf lettuce, or cover and chill up to 24 hours. Makes 6 servings.

If salad is not used immediately, chop and add apple just before serving.

I was about to hang up when she cheerfully asked, ...  
"And will your grandmother need a rental car?"

Pastor Tim <posts@cybersaltlists.org>



Little Emily, the minister's daughter, ran into the house, crying as though her heart would break.

"What's wrong, dear?" asked the pastor.

"My doll! Billy broke it!" she sobbed.

"How did he break it, Emily?"

"I hit him over the head with it."

Received from Thomas Ellsworth. The Good Clean Funnies List <gcfl-info@gcfl.net>



A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?"

A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy.

"Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked.

"You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven  
from pg vargis docsdailychuckle@freegroups.net



"Is there anything wrong?" asked bartender of the young, well-dressed customer who sat staring grimly into his drink.

"Two months ago my grandfather died and left me \$100,000" said the man.

"That doesn't sound like anything to be upset about," said the bartender. "It should happen to me."

"Yeah," said the sour young man, "but last month an uncle on my father's side passed away. He left me \$95,000."

"So why are you sitting here looking so unhappy?"

"This month - so far - not a cent."

Mikey's Funnies <funnies-owner@lists.MikeysFunnies.com>



During a test I was administering, I noticed that one of my married students, who was quite pregnant, kept rubbing her side. After class, before she left, I asked her, "Are you okay? I noticed you were holding onto your side."

"Oh, I'm fine," she answered. "It's just that my baby was pushing his foot up and down my ribs, and it hurt a little."

"Well, that's good," I said, feeling relieved.

"Yes," she continued. "It's strange. He normally sleeps during your class."

Received from Thomas Ellsworth. The Good Clean Funnies List <gcfl-info@gcfl.net>



The teacher of the earth science class was lecturing on map reading.

After explaining about latitude, longitude, degrees and minutes the teacher asked, "Suppose I asked you to meet me for lunch at 23 degrees, 4 minutes north latitude and 45 degrees, 15 minutes east longitude . . .?"

After a confused silence, a voice volunteered, "I guess you'd be eating alone."

Pastor Tim <posts@cybersaltlists.org>



A student of philosophy was taking his final written exam at his university. The assignment for the 5-hour long exam was to write an essay on the topic, "What is courage?"

The young man sat at his desk and thought for a little while. Finally, he scribbled something on the piece of paper in front of him, got up, and turned in the piece of paper.

All he had written was: "This is."

Pastor Tim <posts@cybersaltlists.org>



Flight fifty was having a pretty rough time above the ocean. Suddenly a voice came over the intercom: "Ladies and gentlemen, please fasten your seat belts and assume the crash position. We have lost our engines and we are trying to put this baby as gentle as possible down on the water".

"Oh stewardess! Are there any sharks in the ocean below?" asked a little old lady, terrified.

"Yes, I'm afraid there are some. But not to worry, we have a special gel in the bottle next to your chair designed especially for emergencies like this. Just rub the gel onto your arms and legs".

"And if I use it, the sharks won't eat me?" asked the little lady.

"Oh, probably not, but they won't enjoy it as much".

Pastor Tim <posts@cybersaltlists.org>



Two lawyers are in a bank, when, suddenly, armed robbers burst in.

While one of the robbers takes the money from the tellers, the other lines the customers, including the



## Help the Children

### **RV - Arena Community Elementary School**

We are running a little late with this collection.

The items that Karen Wilkinson put together can still be distributed.

Bring your donations to the entry of the church on the Sundays in August so that we can get the items to the school before the beginning of the school year.

School begins on September 1.

24 Pack Crayons

School Glue

Fiskars Child Scissors

Colored Pencils

Washable Markers

Expo Black Markers

Pencils

Ballpoint Pens

Folders

Kleenex

Disinfectant Wipes

Liquid Hand Sanitizer

5X7" Pencil Box

Thank you for helping so that our school children have what they need to have a very good school year.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED