



NEWSLETTER

*Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to His feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me His praise should sing?
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.*
HENRY LYTE



FPC WORSHIP COMMITTEE

By Wes Curry

Oftentimes we lose sight of the reason we are here on Sunday mornings. If you are like I am, when we actually sit in the pew, we are easily distracted by so many things: good things like “Did I properly prepare to teach Sunday School”; mundane things like “Did I turn off the coffee pot”; annoying things like “I wish my child would stop doing that incredibly annoying thing.” If we are honest, each of us, no matter how far we are along the way, can find ourselves sitting in church with no real understanding of why we are there.

Thankfully, our infirmities are the reason Jesus came—to save those who cannot save themselves. Through his death, Christ paid the penalty for sins of which he was innocent. In A.W. Tozer’s book, Worship, Tozer makes the point that Christ’s death did more than just save us from our



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SUNDAYS

- Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
- Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.
- Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.

sins; he reminds us that Christ saved us for an ongoing purpose:

“But it’s not just what he saved them from, it’s what he saved them to! To kneel in a simple bamboo chapel and worship the Lord God Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and Jesus Christ His only Son. That’s what he saved them to! And that’s all that matters.”

Worship – Collected Insights
from A.W. Tozer.

This quote from Tozer relates to a tribe of headhunters from Borneo who were saved through the missionary work of a man named Jeffrey. And you may ask yourself, “What does that have to do with me, I don’t live in Borneo”. Well, the quote comes from a chapter in which the author discusses the reason we all exist, which, ultimately, is to worship Him. Our Creator made us to worship Him. What is amazing is when we sinned, making it impossible to fulfill our purpose, He sacrificed his own Son to make it possible for us to fulfill our purpose.

As we gather together on Sunday mornings, we need to remind ourselves that, no matter how imperfect we are, by worshipping on Sunday we are fulfilling the purpose for which God created us. So, no matter how you may feel, by being in worship you are experiencing God’s mercy. Together in worship, we are fulfilling the purpose for which we were made. It is this act which encourages us to take God’s mercy into our work week and apply it to everything we do; worship on Sunday equips us for worship in our everyday life and work.

Believe it or not, this article began as a discussion of what the Worship Committee does in our church! Our Session’s standing rules task the Worship Committee with many duties, like overseeing Lord’s Day worship services, supervising worship personnel, scheduling and providing assistance in the observance of the Sacraments, and overseeing scheduled worship activities and conferences (including special services, weddings, and other uses of the sanctuary). This work has included everything from drafting and approving the church’s wedding policy to approval of the use of the sanctuary for special events.

Recently, the committee approved the following uses of the Sanctuary, of which we wanted to make the church aware and encourage them to participate in:

Roger Lowther (MTW Missionary)
Organ Concert

Sunday, November 24, 4:30 pm.

White Gift Service

Sunday, December 1, 6:00 pm

Lessons and Carols Service

Sunday, December 8, 6:00 pm

PCS Choral Concert

Tuesday, December 10, 6:00 pm.

William Carey University Choral Concert

Sunday, April 27, 2025, 2:00 pm.

PCS Choral Concert

Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 6:00 pm.

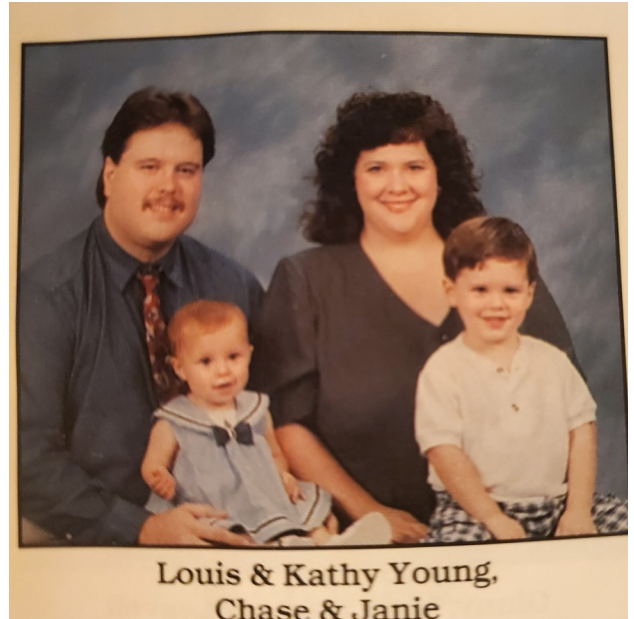
Now, as these events occur and as we enjoy Sunday mornings together, may we remember, as imperfect as we are, we participate in God’s intended purpose.

WHILE YOU ARE BRINGING UP MY YOUNG FRIENDS

By Kathy Young

I have learned so many things from mistakes, some that I've made and from the mistakes of others. It's often been said that my older brother and sister should take some credit because they helped teach me how to avoid mistakes! Honestly, mistakes are among the best forms of learning. However, I don't know of anyone who doesn't wish that they could go back in time and correct some mistakes, especially when they pertain to parenting.

Of course, that is the past and we trust God's grace to cover the ways we've made mistakes and wronged our children. Hopefully through these we've all been pointed more to the Lord's forgiveness. None of us is perfect! If you haven't said that to yourself lately, please do so now. "I am not perfect, and I am not a perfect parent." Yet if I had it to do over again, I would change a few things. Since my children are delightful adults now and I can no longer make adjustments to affect their childhoods, I'd love to share what I would like to have done differently. Perhaps my younger friends can learn from my mistakes.



- During worship service, I didn't want my children to disturb others (and it is important to be mindful of that). However, the quiet questions, the occasional paper rattles, or wiggles happen. I wish that I had given greater consideration that my children were IN worship with God's people where they belonged. Their hearts mattered so much more than distractions that (hopefully) no one else even noticed.
- The SHOES! If I had to do it over again, my son would have worn sandals all year long or even sported bare feet. Dress shoes were such a struggle for him when he was a little one, and there were many big arguments on the way to church over shoes. What a waste!
- I worried about everything. I don't want to go into the detail that you probably already know. I worried about... (fill in the blank). My worry interfered with my being able to trust the Lord and enjoy seeing his hand at work in my children.
- I would have said that it's better to be late than never. We were sometimes late enough that we avoided going into Sunday School or Worship Service. It is important to plan ahead and not worry so much about wrinkles, etc., but when it happens, late is always better than missing out on an opportunity to be in God's house.

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- Recently a song came on the radio from my childhood, like from way back, and I remembered every word. If I had a chance to do it over again, I would have played lots of really good music which helped my kiddos learn God's word. (If you would also like to do that, I have some recommendations of enjoyable music for Scripture memorization).
- I would have talked less about what was coming up and spent more time enjoying the moment. Rather than concerning myself with making sure our Thanksgiving or Christmas traditions were going to be memorable, I would like to have delighted in sitting together at the table during homework time or laughed more at silly jokes. Simply put, I would have "chilled out."
- I wish I could go back and be honest with my children about things I messed up and ask for their young childhood forgiveness for when I lost my temper or was impatient or cared more about anything other than their hearts in the moment. It seemed like when I did acknowledge these things, I was often making excuses. I still do that sometimes.

If you think my mistakes were limited to this list, you are mistaken! These are just some that I want to share to ask you to consider while you are bringing up my young friends. Perhaps you can learn from my mistakes.

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Psalm 103:8
I would encourage you to read all of Psalm 103 and be reminded within this beautiful passage of God's forgiveness and care for us as his children.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PACKING PARTIES

McIntosh Hall

Thursday-Friday-Saturday, November 14-15-16,
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 17, 2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Scan QR code for wish list.

